

Water sale dropped by Cabinet

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

In an unexpected and dramatic shift of policy, the Government announced last night that it was postponing plans to privatize the water industry before the general election.

Legislation to sell the 10 water authorities in England and Wales was to have been the centrepiece of the Government's next parliamentary programme beginning in the autumn, raising between £5 billion and £7 billion for the Treasury.

But the Cabinet decided yesterday that the Bill, likely to be the most contentious of all privatization proposals, should not go ahead in what will be the last full session of the present Parliament.

The announcement in a Commons written reply by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, seemed to have disappointed some Conservative MPs, and the Thames Water Authority, the largest and most profitable of the bodies, which has been pushing for privatization.

It led some MPs to question the Government's determination to carry out its privatization aims.

Mr Ridley stated that his consultations on privatizing water authorities had shown that more time was needed to prepare legislation.

In February, Mr Kenneth

Baker, Mr Ridley's predecessor, unveiling the Commons plans, had said that they were "fit and ready to join the private sector."

Since then there has been growing opposition from trade unions, consumer groups and a sizable number of Conservative MPs and it was being concluded last night that the Cabinet had decided that it could not risk such controversial legislation so close to a general election.

It is also understood that Mr Ridley, one of the keenest privatizers in the Cabinet, had not been convinced that the industry was the most suitable candidate for the private sector.

It is clear that Mrs Margaret Thatcher wants the next legislative session to be light to give maximum room for manoeuvre in deciding when to call a general election. She wants all proposed Bills to become law by the end of July next year to clear the decks by the beginning of the 1987 summer recess.

An added complication is the legal action taken by the union Nalge against the Thames authority, arguing that it is unlawful to spend money on employing consultants to advise on privatization until legislation has been passed allowing that to happen.

Mr Ridley reaffirmed last night that it was the Government's intention to proceed with water privatization as soon as practicable. That commitment may be outlined by the introduction of a short Bill in the next session of Parliament that will enable authorities to make necessary preparations for privatization.

The Government faced a storm from opposition MPs over the way it made the announcement. Mr Jack Cunningham, Labour's chief environment spokesman, intervened during a debate to describe it as disgraceful and cowardly.

After protests from the opposition, Mr Ridley was forced to go to the Commons to make a 10pm statement to MPs on the Cabinet's about-turn.

Mr Cunningham said: "This decision is a major victory for the Labour and trade union campaign."

The decision, coming on top of that to delay the sale of the Royal Ordnance factories was regretted by Conservative MPs who have strongly backed the privatization drive.

The Government has also held back on the sale of British Airways and shelved plans for community radio.



Martina Navratilova yesterday: heading for her fifth Wimbledon final in five years.

Czech girl puts out Lloyd in semi-final

By Our Sports News Correspondent

Martina Navratilova, of the United States, who has won the title for the last four years, will play Hana Mandlikova, of Czechoslovakia, in the women's singles at Wimbledon on Saturday.

Miss Navratilova yesterday defeated Gabriela Sabatini, aged 16, of Argentina, 6-2, 6-2 while in the other semi-final Miss Mandlikova defeated Chris Lloyd, also of the United States and three times winner, 7-6, 7-5 in 1 hour 35 minutes.

Miss Navratilova, who has won 32 consecutive matches at Wimbledon, overwhelmed the Argentinean in 53 minutes on the centre court. Miss Mandlikova, who lost the 1981 final to Mrs Lloyd, fought back in the second set from 5-2 down to defeat the No 2 seed.

Gatting century rescues England

In the third Test at Edgbaston, England, who have lost seven Tests in a row, were quickly in trouble against India in the final match of the series. They were two wickets down without a run on the board and then 88 for four.

But Mike Gatting, who was first appointed captain for the second Test, led England's recovery with his fifth Test century. By the close he had made 141 not out and England were 315 for six.

Call to Zola Budd

Keith Conner and Andrea Lynch, two of Britain's most respected athletes of West Indian origin in recent years, want Zola Budd to sever all connections with her native South Africa. They are canvassing black members of England's team for the Commonwealth Games for support.

Latest statistics disclose that in 1984, 353 servicemen and women were convicted in military and civilian courts on drugs-related charges and that

Court rules EEC budget illegal

From Our Correspondent, Brussels

The European Court of Justice has ruled that the EEC's 1986 budget is illegal, in a judgement that will save Britain £72 million pounds in payments to Brussels this year.

In the longer term the saving could rise to £100 million, but the judgement yesterday, just two days after Britain took over the EEC presidency, could spark a big row within the Community.

In a ruling that will sharply curtail the powers of the European Parliament, the court said that the Community's £21 billion budget was invalid. It was pushed through by the Parliament in December in defiance of the Council of Budget Ministers, who had put together a budget worth £20.6 billion. Britain's share of the difference was £72 million.

But the Parliament felt that the ministers had not met the Community's needs for a full year, and had produced an unrealistic budget.

The court, whose decisions are binding on the 12 governments and the European Parliament alike, ruled that

Armed forces recruits face drug tests

By Nicholas Beaton

Armed forces recruits will be shown new films on the dangers of drug abuse and some servicemen may face tests, as part of campaign by the Ministry of Defence to clamp down on narcotics offences, officials said yesterday.

The announcements come in the wake of recommendations by the drug abuse prevention committee, established 18 months ago to co-ordinate the fight against drugs by the Army, the Royal Navy and the RAF.

Latest statistics disclose that in 1984, 353 servicemen and women were convicted in military and civilian courts on drugs-related charges and that

one third of the 30,000 yearly recruits have had "experience of drugs" before entering.

"The problem only affects one in every 1,000 servicemen, but drugs and service life do not mix," an officer involved in the campaign said.

The films depict eight fictitious "cautionary tales" involving servicemen in Belize, West Germany, the United States and Britain.

In most cases a member of the armed forces faces a court martial, a term in a military correction centre and dismissal. Servicemen suspected of taking drugs will now be asked to pass a urinalysis test.

Friday Page, page 11

£8m seized in raid on French bank

Paris - Five masked gunmen got away with an estimated £8 million francs (£8 million) from the St Nazaire branch of the Bank of France yesterday after breaking into the homes of the bank manager and of the chief cashier, who was shot in the shoulder (Diana Geddes writes).

The gang forced the two men to get into the bank, and then lay in wait for the employees. Each was taken hostage as he arrived, while the man with the keys to the safes was forced to open them.

As they were helping themselves to the cash, however, they were disturbed by a passing police siren and fled in three waiting cars.

The chief cashier was shot as he tried to push away a gun after being seized at his home, above the bank. He was taken to hospital where his condition was described as satisfactory. In a similar hold-up at the Niort branch of the Bank of France in March, six masked gunmen got away with 29 million francs after ambushing the concierge, forcing him to open the bank, and lying in wait for the employees. The gunmen have still not been found.

Bank robberies are now taking place in France at an alarming rate of five every day the banks are open. The amount seized is usually relatively small, however, as most banks now keep only a minimum amount of accessible cash on the premises.

M Robert Pandraud, Minister for Security, announced, after a top-level meeting with Bank of France officials and police yesterday that special measures were to be taken to strengthen the security of Bank of France branches throughout the country.

Police station bombed in Cape

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

A bomb exploded outside a police station in Cape Town early yesterday injuring a policeman and a policewoman, both whites.

It was the 11th bomb incident in various town centres since the declaration of a state of emergency on June 12.

Meanwhile, the Bureau for Information reported that three black victims of "necklace executions" were found during the 24 hours to 6 am yesterday - one in the Eastern Cape, one in the Southern Transvaal and one in the KwaNdebele "homeland."

A total of 96 "unrelated" deaths have been reported since June 12 by the bureau, which controls news about such incidents under the state of emergency.

A correspondent for the West German television network ARD, Dr Heinrich Buttgen, left South Africa last night after his appeal against expulsion was turned down on Wednesday. He is the fourth foreign journalist to be expelled since June 12.

In Johannesburg, the Metal and Allied Workers' Union (MAWU), one of South Africa's biggest mainly black trade unions, opened its first national congress yesterday with its president, Mr Maxwell Xulu, absent and reportedly in hiding.

Mr Fritz Leutner, the former Swiss National Bank chairman, has resigned as mediator between South Africa and its creditor banks in reaction to recent political developments there, a spokesman said here yesterday (Reuter reports).

He said the decision had been taken shortly after the imposition of the state of emergency and had been already communicated to South African officials.

More bombs, page 7

Leading article, page 13

Lords rule in favour of TSB sale

The £1 billion stock market flotation of the Trustee Savings Bank Group is likely to go ahead in September after a unanimous ruling by the House of Lords that the assets of the bank do not belong to its depositors (Lawrence Lever writes).

The sale, which the TSB hopes will create a million small shareholders, has been delayed since February by challenges in the Scottish and English courts.

However, a petition to the European Court of Human Rights to block the sale has not been ruled out by the TSB depositors who mounted the challenge. Details, page 17

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Tomorrow Weekend of sport

Wimbledon: Rex Bellamy previews the women's final Edgbaston: John Woodcock from the Third Test Henley: report on the Royal Regatta

Wimbledon: Rex Bellamy previews the women's final Edgbaston: John Woodcock from the Third Test Henley: report on the Royal Regatta

Portfolio

There is £20,000 to be won tomorrow in The Times Portfolio Gold competition - double the weekly £8,000 prize because there was no winner last weekend, plus the daily £4,000. Yesterday's £4,000 prize was won outright by Mr Simon Bruce, of London EC2. There is another £4,000 to be won today. Portfolio list, page 23; rules and how to play, information service, page 16.

Peace hopes

The Pope spoke of his desire for peace in Northern Ireland and Central America as he continued his tour of Colombia. Page 9

Tripods results

Cambridge Tripos examination results for Natural Sciences Part 1b are published today. Page 27

Covent Garden swansong ends on sour note

By Alan Hamilton

Sir John Tooley, general director of the Royal Opera House, yesterday sprang to the defence of the first Covent Garden production for many years to be roundly booed on its opening night.

The final notes of Beethoven's *Fidelio*, widely regarded as the most solemn work in the operatic repertoire outside Wagner, were sounding under the baton of Sir Colin Davis on Wednesday night when a substantial body of the audience began to voice its disapproval in a way that is rarely heard in Britain's premier opera house. Spectators

said that the booing lasted for a full two minutes.

Sir Colin, conducting his last production after 15 years as musical director of Covent Garden, bore the brunt of the abuse, but the dissatisfaction appeared to have been aimed more at Andrei Serban, the Romanian-born producer, and Sally Jacobs, the set designer, who staged an unconventional interpretation of the triumph of good over evil.

For the first time in at least a decade, neither producer nor designer took a curtain call on the first night, although both were in the house at the time

Swift action over Peacock unlikely

By Richard Evans, Political Correspondent

The key recommendations of the Peacock report on financing of broadcasting published yesterday, including radical plans for "pay-as-you-view," will not be implemented before the next general election, Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, indicated last night.

Although he told the Commons the central outcome of the year-long inquiry fitted well with the Government's general philosophy, he made clear that decisions on the most far-reaching proposals affecting the style of broadcasting well into the twenty-first century would not be reached "for several years."

Several Tory MPs were convinced last night that the report would be shelved, at least in the short term.

With Peacock having come down against the Prime Minister's preferred option of introducing advertising into the BBC, the only major decisions to be taken by Mr Hurd and his colleagues over the next 18 months involve the next round of IBA contracts and a proposal for an indexed licence fee.

There will also be talks with TV manufacturers over whether sets should in future have a special socket to allow viewers to adapt to a subscription system.

Meanwhile the report's proposal covering plans for free market in TV and radio will be placed on the back burner.

The one area where the Home Secretary did express a strong view concerned regulating the content of programmes. While Professor Peacock and his committee suggest there should not be pre-publication censorship or vetting of any kind of broadcasting, Mr Hurd insisted that existing guidelines involving pornography and violence should be kept.

"Our present arrangements reflect the view that the peculiarly intrusive nature of broadcasting, and in

particular of television, continue to require special regulatory arrangements to ensure certain standards in broadcast services."

Mr Hurd indicated that proposals to privatize BBC Radio One and Two would be examined in conjunction with the Green Paper which he has decided to publish on the general provision and regulation of all radio broadcasting.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, shadow Home Secretary, launched a bitter attack on the package, and warned that if implemented the BBC would be turned into a TV equivalent of junk food. He rejected all the major recommendations and pledged a future Labour government to phase out the licence fee for all pensioners.

and later attended a first-night party with the cast.

Sir John said that a section of the audience had not appreciated the new and original treatment of an operatic piece generally regarded as sacrosanct. The production relies heavily on the imagery of the poet William Blake, and involves angels and devils appearing on stilts, and, on the first night at least, struggling to keep their balance.

"It is simply that this production is a very original approach. Serban and Jacobs are very serious artists who looked deeply into *Fidelio* in search of a new approach. I

think they have been largely successful," he said.

"Sacrosanct pieces in the repertoire often benefit from a fresh approach, provided always that there is a seriousness in the approach, which there certainly was in this case."

Sir John said that he had expected some poor reaction, because many people came to Covent Garden "wanting the conventional." But the present production was a genuine search for a different approach.

Serban and Jacobs have hitherto had a good track record.

Their present production has had mixed reviews. The

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Privatization of local services increasing after two quiet years

Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

The number of councils privatizing services has risen after two quiet years, according to the latest survey by *Local Government Chronicle*. It says that 16 per cent of councils are privatizing some services this year, compared with 11 per cent in each of the past two years.

The Government is preparing a new drive for more competitive tendering of local government services in the wake of the appointment of Mr Nicholas Ridley as Secretary of State for the Environment. As Secretary of State for Transport he masterminded the deregulation of bus operations.

Several ministers have indicated recently that the apparent lack of momentum in efforts to secure more privatization should not be taken as a sign that plans have been abandoned.

The Department of the Environment proposed more than a year ago that school

meals and refuse collection were services that might have to be put out to private tender. Mrs Angela Rumbold, a Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, has indicated that the Government wants to push ahead for more privatization in the face of union opposition and derision.

A union survey of about 300 cases of privatization suggests that 30 per cent of jobs go when a service is switched to a private company and that the value of the pay and benefits to remaining staff is cut by 30 per cent.

Details of the survey were disclosed by Mr John Edmonds, general secretary of the General, Municipal, Boilermakers' and Allied Trade Union, who said: "People who are used to exploitation can usually be expected to accept the extra lash."

The survey in *Local Government Chronicle* shows that despite the party-political split

about privatization, Conservative and Labour councils are among the 60 putting services out to private contract this year and among the 19 bringing them back to directly-employed workforces.

Conservative Epsom and Epsom and Epsom are among those which have called in private operators to clear rafts from sewers. Conservative Lewes in East Sussex has awarded a £12,000 contract for grass-cutting, while Conservative Melton expects to save £8,000 a year on a £38,000 deal for cleaning a cattle market.

Conservative Tendring has awarded a £13,000 contract for a dog warden, while Conservative Wandsworth expects to save £100,000 a year by privatizing office cleaning.

Labour Peterborough has awarded contracts worth more than £500,000 a year for gas fitting and servicing and for the painting of council homes.



Patricia Ford, president of Birkbeck students' union, delivering a petition against funding cuts to peers and MPs yesterday. (Photograph by John Voos)

CPSA to meet on election

By Mark Dowd

Twenty-nine members of the Civil and Public Services Association national executive committee will meet next Tuesday to decide what action to take following reports of election malpractice after the election of Mr John Macreadie as general secretary.

The CPSA president, Mrs Marion Chambers, is examining complaints before making any formal recommendation, but with moderates holding 22 of the 29 seats on the national executive, a full-scale inquiry looks inevitable.

Less certain is the question of who would preside over the investigation. Under the union's complaints procedure, the general secretary should undertake the task. However, Mr Alistair Graham, who occupies the position, is due to leave on July 11 to become director of the Industrial Society. If Mr Graham is overlooked, the obvious choice and favourite for the job would be the president, Mrs Chambers.

Senior CPSA officials yesterday denied reports of factional in-fighting and disagreements in the moderate camp over who should head the inquiry.

The Society of Civil and Public Servants yesterday spoke out strongly against plans to employ outside middle grade executives in the Department of Employment.

Birkbeck fights £2m cut in budget

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

An impending cut of up to £2m in the funding of Birkbeck College, London, was confirmed yesterday by the Council of London University, which decided to ask for more money to rescue the college. It is the only one in the country to devote its work to adults who work during the day and study at night.

The court, chaired by Lord Scarman, wants the University Grants Committee to provide more money for the university in general and Birkbeck in particular. It will also ask the UGC to reconsider the treatment of the college resulting from a new funding formula for part-time students.

The proposed cut in Birkbeck's budget arises from this formula. It affects Birkbeck so seriously because all its students are in this category.

In the past London University funded the college at the rate of 0.8 of a full-time student, but the UGC decided in May that part-timers should be funded at one-half the normal rate instead.

This means that Birkbeck

stands to lose about 30 per cent of its UGC funding of £7.5m over the next three years.

In a statement yesterday, London University said: "Because of the application of the UGC's standard formula for part-time students to Birkbeck College, the court is unable to provide the funds to preserve Birkbeck's unique and invaluable contribution to part-time education."

Yesterday staff and students from Birkbeck handed in a petition to Parliament. They were received by MPs and Conservative MPs Dr Keith Hampson and Ivor Stanbrook, and Lords Denning, Glenamara, Seabrook and Ladies Ewart-Biggs, David and White.

The petition was signed by more than 15,000 students and supporters. It called on the Secretary of State for Education to "take all steps open to him to prevent changes in the college's annual grant which will seriously affect its future."

Letters, page 13

Irish court returns Sinn Fein debt fund

The Irish Republic government has been ordered to return \$80,000 (£51,600) with interest seized from Mr Joe Cahill, the former provisional IRA leader in Belfast, and another man four years ago (Richard Ford writes).

Mr Cahill told a Dublin court yesterday that the money was intended to fund and repay debts incurred by provisional Sinn Fein, the political wing of the provisional IRA, as part of their strategy of fighting elections.

The cash was seized by the police in 1982 as Mr Edward Howell left a Dublin restaurant where he had been with Mr Cahill, now a prominent Sinn Fein member in Dublin.

Miners press for retirement at 50

By Tim Jones

Demand that all 135,000 members of the National Union of Mineworkers should be able to retire at the age of 50 are to be put to British Coal.

In addition, delegates to the miners' conference at Tenby, Dyfed, decided that the men should receive big golden handshakes and pensions identical to those paid to redundant miners.

It was a scandal, delegates said, that some men in their forties could receive thousands of pounds in redundancy while men taking early retirement at 60 received only a £500 lump sum.

At present, the retirement age for miners is 65, but underground workers can leave at 60 under an early retirement scheme that does not apply to surface workers. Women retire at 60.

Mr Paul Beasley, from the Nottinghamshire area, said men who had spent 30 years underground were worn out and many suffered health problems.

The conference ended yesterday, a day earlier than

planned, with delegates returning to their areas to report that for the foreseeable future there is no mood for any kind of industrial action.

Only Mr Arthur Scargill, the president, exhorted the men to prepare for a strike in resist-pit closures. But the angry reaction to his call must have convinced him that he was out of touch.

As he launched into his customary end of conference attack on the press, Mr Scargill found himself at odds with Mr Michael McGahey, the union vice-president.

Mr Scargill accused the media of looking for "spits and divisions which could be exploited".

But Mr McGahey told reporters present: "Thank you, we need you." He said: "We want to talk to a wider audience of the public."

During a private session, delegates called on the union leadership to examine how the six miners serving jail sentences and the 486 men dismissed during the dispute could receive payments equivalent to those of working miners.

'Labour set for poll win'

Labour is likely to hold Newcastle-under-Lyme in the by-election on July 17 with an increased majority of 10,000, according to the first poll taken in the North Staffordshire constituency (Nicholas Wood writes).

It gives Labour 49.3 per cent, the Alliance, 25.2 per cent, and the Conservatives 21.1 per cent.

Compared with the 1983 general election, Labour's share is up by 7.4 per cent, the Alliance by 3.5 per cent, and the Conservatives down by 14.3 per cent.

The poll of 772 electors was conducted last Sunday by Trent Polytechnic for Central Television's *Central Lobby*.

When nominations for the by-election closed yesterday the candidates were:

David Brewster (Labour), Alan Burt (Alliance), John Burt (Conservative), John Burt (Liberal), John Burt (Socialist), John Burt (Green), John Burt (Independent), John Burt (Other).

Heseltine taunts Owen over CND

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

Mr Michael Heseltine challenged Dr David Owen yesterday to disown the Liberal Alliance candidate in the Newcastle-under-Lyme by-election for his membership and support of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

The former Secretary of State for Defence threw down the gauntlet as the first opinion poll in the North Staffordshire constituency put the Conservatives a poor third, with the Alliance emerging as the main challenger to Labour.

Mr Heseltine said that the SDP leader left the Labour Party because he could not stomach its ever more extreme one-sided disarmers. Voters need to know the difference between the CND-riddled Labour Party Dr Owen had abandoned and the CND-riddled Liberal Party he had embraced.

"You have led the small band of erstwhile Labour MPs out of the frying pan of Labour unilateralism and straight into

the fire of the same extremism in the Liberal Party," he said.

Mr Heseltine questioned how Dr Owen could reconcile his backing for Nato and Britain's nuclear deterrent with "support for a campaign to take Britain out of Nato."

The SDP leader, appearing at a press conference with the candidate, Mr Alan Thomas, rejected Mr Heseltine's charges.

Dr Owen said that he respected the pacifist tradition in politics, and that the only thing that divided him from Mr Thomas was a difference of opinion over the "mechanism for achieving disarmament."

It is becoming increasingly clear that the SDP and the Liberals see the creation of a European deterrent, under the control of the leaders of France and the European members of Nato, as the way of resolving their damaging divisions over the future of Polaris.

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The public face of freemasons

Freemasons are trying to improve their public image, after more than 30 years of obsessive reticence, with the opening of the first permanent public masonic exhibition in London today by the Duke of Kent, Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England.

For too long freemasons feel they have been maligned by critics portraying them as members of secret societies indulging in obscure rituals with religious overtones, and using their masonic contacts to advance their own interests.

The exhibition in Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Holborn, puts on public show for the first time many documents and artefacts tracing the history of freemasonry. It also draws attention to masonic charitable works as well as naming royals and the famous who were freemasons.

Freemasonry is one of the world's oldest secular societies and developed in England in the late sixteenth or early



The Duke of Kent, in his regalia as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England.

seventeenth centuries and may have been descended from the craft of medieval stonemasons.

Commander Michael Higham (RN), Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, which administers about 8,500 lodges with between 300,000-500,000 members in Britain, said that before the Second World War there were three masonic periodicals and freemasons had a higher public profile.

Spy trial told of bank cash

An East German woman accused of espionage paid nearly £13,000 into bank accounts, although she did not work until a few months before her arrest, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday (Stewart Tendler writes).

Sonja Schulze, aged 36, and her husband Reinhard, aged 33, of Cranford, west London, have denied charges under the Official Secrets Act and charges involving passports.

The prosecution has alleged that funds were accredited to the couple's accounts in some instances immediately following trips abroad.

Yesterday Detective Sergeant Richard Shepherd of Scotland Yard's Special Branch told the court that Mrs Schulze had deposited £12,906 in Irish and British bank accounts.

Between the end of 1982 and the end of 1983, Mrs Schulze made three trips abroad and made deposits after each trip.

The case continues today.

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Growth in number of mature applicants for university places

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The number of pupils aged 18 applying for university places has dropped at the same time as the number of applicants aged 25 and over has increased, according to figures published yesterday by the Universities Central Council on Admissions.

Between 1984 and 1985 there was a 10.3 per cent increase in the number of over-25s applying to study for a university degree, and a 1.5 per cent drop in applicants aged 18, the UCCA statistical supplement for 1984-85 says. This drop is attributed to the decline in the birth rate from the mid-1960s.

The rise in mature applicants wanting a university

education is thought to be due to a number of factors: the fact that universities have been encouraging more mature students to apply, and accepting proportionately more of them; and that the universities of Glasgow, Strathclyde and Ulster are taking part fully now in the UCCA admissions scheme. They take more than average numbers of mature students.

The previous year there was an 8.1 per cent increase in the number of over-25s applying for university, when there were no special factors operating, so the trend is clear. In the academic year 1984-85 there were 8,942 candidates over the age of 25, representing 5.7

per cent of the total of 157,085.

Older students choose to study certain subjects, in particular the humanities where the proportion was as high as 11.7 per cent, with 9.7 per cent opting for social sciences.

Overall, there has been a very slight decline in the standard of grades achieved at A level. The average score of home candidates accepted for university entrance has remained the same at 11 points or two Bs and a C. This is the first time the average score has not risen since it was first calculated in 1980.

"It is apparent that universities are continuing to accept candidates of very high calibre as measured by A level results," UCCA says. The most sought after subjects require higher A level scores than 11 points, and these include law, medicine, veterinary science, English and accountancy.

Statistical Supplement to the Twenty-third Report 1984-85 (UCCA, PO Box 28, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 1HY; £3).

Age distribution of home candidates 1983-85						
Age	Under 18	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	Total
1983	6,829	91,856	35,433	15,480	7,497	157,015
1984	6,973	89,162	35,877	16,369	8,107	156,488
1985	9,128	87,846	34,534	16,633	8,942	157,085
% increase 1984-85	30.9	-1.5	-0.4	1.5	10.3	0.4

Teachers fight ethnic poll

Teachers in London are boycotting a census which seeks to establish the ethnic origin of staff working for the Inner London Education Authority (our Education Correspondent writes).

They are being supported in the action by the National Union of Teachers, and almost half the 1,000 schools in the Inner London Education Authority have refused to fill in the questionnaire.

The ILEA, the largest education authority in Britain, has warned the teachers that they could face disciplinary action if they do not comply.

In common with many organizations, the authority argues that it needs information about the racial origins of

its 21,000 teachers to assess whether its equal opportunities policies are working.

The Commission for Racial Equality makes the same argument, and there is widespread agreement nationally on the need for ethnic monitoring.

However, ethnic minority groups and those on the left are suspicious. They are worried that the information might fall into the wrong hands.

Mr Mike Loosley, secretary of the Inner London Teachers' Association, said: "The pressure is being put on heads now. I know of some who have had four reminders and others who have had unofficial threats of disciplinary action."

"We have advised our members to stick fast in not participating, but, if the authority is unwise, it is heading for confrontation. If it is wise, it will talk about it further, but I fear the first."

A spokesman at NUT headquarters said that the ILEA's intentions may have been good but the authority seemed to have made some tactical errors.

Many people did not believe, for example, that there were foolproof safeguards about confidentiality.

Mr Saleh Mamoun, secretary of the London Black Teachers' Group, said there was immense resentment about the questionnaire.

Pop singer to leave Britain

By Nicholas Beeson

Boy George, the pop music star, announced plans to leave Britain yesterday, after his brother said that he was a heroin addict with only eight weeks to live.

The millionaire singer gave conflicting accounts of his health, saying he was "fit enough to run a marathon" and later admitting he was "an out and out junkie with only a few weeks to live".

His brother, Mr David O'Dowd, aged 21, repeated charges published in *The Sun* newspaper, and said: "I went public about George's heroin addiction because I believe it is the only way he can be saved. Leaving the country now would just be running away from the problem."

Fumes put 10 in hospital

Ten people were taken to hospital yesterday after another escape of fumes was detected in a store where experts were investigating a gas leak. The Tesco supermarket at Carmarthen in West Wales was closed while health officials checked freezer equipment.

Eighty eight people were treated in the West Wales General Hospital at Glangwili on Wednesday after the first escape of fumes caused chaos.

Wife cleared of killing

Mrs Gillian Rendell, who stabbed her violent husband to death with a carving knife last December, was acquitted at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of murder.

Mrs Rendell, aged 23, a mother of two, said that her husband Michael, aged 22, turned to drink and drugs after their marriage in 1983. He regularly beat her up and called her a slave.

Extradition plea to court

The High Court yesterday reserved judgment in an application by Mr Alex Herbage, the international financier, for an order blocking his extradition to the United States.

Mr Herbage, aged 55, is wanted in Florida, on specimen charges related to an alleged \$46 million (£30 million) investment fraud.

Girl dies on school holiday

Police and council officials were inquiring yesterday into the death of Claire Parkes, aged 10, at the Thornbridge Educational Centre, Ashford, in the Derbyshire Peak District.

The girl, of Middlewood, Sheffield, died after falling 10 ft into a stairwell.

PC in shooting 'victim of 1,000 to 1 chance'

By Craig Seton

The tragic shooting of John Shorthouse, aged 5, by a police marksman was a lesson to all police forces to ensure that children were not at risk before armed officers searched for criminals, Stafford Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mr Anthony Palmer, QC, defending Police Constable Brian Chester, who has denied the unlawful killing of the boy, told the jury that the officer had been the victim of a "crude, 1,000-1 chance."

A verdict is expected today. PC Chester, aged 35, of Leek Wootton, Warwickshire, is accused of gross negligence in shooting John Shorthouse through the heart from nine inches range, as the boy lay in his bed during a police raid on his parents' maisonette in Birmingham last August.

Mr Palmer, summing up, told the jury: "No verdict of yours can bring the lad back. He was a victim."

"Brian Chester is also a victim - a victim of today's violence which requires a beat bobby without a penny's extra pay to go into places to face, possibly, an armed man."

"He is a victim of inadequate preparation, no proper reconnaissance, no proper in-

formation as to who was in the house, and who might be sleeping where. He was a victim of a cruel 1,000-1 chance."

Mr Palmer added: "One thing that might be learned from this case by all police forces in future is to have better reconnaissance and better information about who lives in the house before they go in."

Mr Palmer said that PC Chester had not been told there were children in the maisonette as police searched for three men - including John Shorthouse's father, who had carried out an armed raid on a restaurant in Wales earlier. The jury had to be sure that the marksman had fired deliberately, and knew that John Shorthouse was in the bedroom, as the prosecution claimed, before they could convict.

"He must have squeezed the trigger, but he has no memory, no realization of having done so," Mr Palmer said.

The prosecution claimed that the boy must have moved and startled PC Chester, who fired instinctively as a result. The case continues today.

Five-star rating for former railway hotel

By Ronald Faux

The first five-star accolade to be awarded by the Automobile Association for more than 10 years was presented to the Caledonian Hotel, Edinburgh, yesterday.

The former railway hotel, at the western end of Princes Street, is now part of the Guinness organization, it was built in 1903 by the Caledonian Railway Company, a red sandstone monument to Edwardian opulence which recently underwent a £4 million renovation.

Only Gleneagles Hotel in Perthshire, part of the same group, holds five-star status in Scotland. Of the 21 five-star hotels in Britain, only five are outside London.

Mr Shaun Dowling, chairman of Gleneagles Hotels, said that the company was particularly pleased to receive the award on the eve of the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh, for which the Caledonian was to be the "flagship" hotel.

Rare Chinese art for sale

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The collapse of a Hong Kong shipping empire is bringing one of the most important collections of Chinese art on to the market.

The collection formed by T.Y. Chao, aged 75, founder of Wah Kwong Shipping, is valued at about £7 million by Sotheby's.

The 400-odd pieces will be dispersed in two sales in Hong Kong in November 1986 and May 1987. Roughly half the pieces belong to Mr Chao's private collection and half to a family trust.

The Wah Kwong group with a fleet of 65 vessels has been struck by the recession in shipping world-wide and is seeking to restructure the business in a manner that will satisfy its 40 creditors to whom it owes £570 million.

It is believed that Mr Chao's private fortune roughly

equals the debt and he is selling up in an attempt to settle the collapse with honour.

Mr Chao was born in Shanghai in 1911 and began life as a lawyer. He moved into shipping in the wake of the Sino-Japanese war, buying his first 9,050-ton vessel in 1946. In 1948 he moved his family and his business to Hong Kong to escape the communists and prospered, becoming one of the territory's leading business figures.

He bought his first piece of Chinese porcelain at the age of 30 and in recent years has bought many of the greatest rarities that came on the market. He has the perfectionism typical of Chinese collectors, almost every piece in his collection is in perfect condition.

That he should have concen-

trated on the best of the later Ming and Qing dynasty porcelains, the most sophisticated imperial wares, is also characteristic of Chinese taste.

At the Edward Chow sale in Hong Kong in May 1981 he carried off a fifteenth century blue-and-white flask at HK\$3 million (about £208,000). The shape of the flask is borrowed from Islamic metalware and is decorated with rumping Chinese dragons and is unique.

Another big buy at the Chow sale was a Ming blue-and-yellowish which cost him HK\$1.6 million (about £133,000). Wares combining floral decoration in underglaze blue and an imperial yellow ground were produced through five reigns but this is the earliest dating from the beginning of the fifteenth century.



Mrs Thatcher taking a trip down The Thames with Richard Branson in Virgin Challenger II last night. Earlier, the boat had swept past Tower Bridge on its triumphant return to London (Photographs: Bill Warhurst and John Manning).

Branson offer of trophy

After sweeping victoriously into London up the Thames in his boat Virgin Atlantic Challenger II yesterday, Richard Branson offered his own trophy to challengers for the Atlantic Blue Riband.

"I've thrown down the gauntlet, invited other challengers and now I'm offering a trophy to promote competition as Howard Hales intended," he said.

The original Hales Trophy, presented by Mr Howard Hales to holders of the Blue Riband, is in the American Merchant Marine Museum in New York.

The curators are refusing to give up the trophy, which has been in the museum since the American liner United States last broke the transatlantic crossing record 34 years ago.

"Since all Hales' trustees are now dead, there is a danger that it will stay there for ever," Mr Branson said. He was speaking at a champagne reception aboard a mock Mississippi river boat - part of his Virgin empire.

The Virgin Atlantic Challenger Trophy for the Blue Riband would be available to anyone who beat Mr

Branson's record of three days eight hours and 31 minutes for the crossing.

It will incorporate the Bishops Rock Lighthouse Trophy presented to Mr Branson at the Scilly Isles when he crossed the finishing line on Sunday.

Mr Branson was given a hero's welcome as Virgin Atlantic Challenger II sped at full speed through Tower Bridge.

He was greeted by Princess Michael of Kent, who launched the 75-foot £1.5 million boat in May.

Jeweller appears in court

John "Goldfinger" Palmer, the fugitive jeweller being questioned about Britain's biggest robbery, appeared at Horseferry Road Magistrates court yesterday. Detective Chief Inspector Ron Smith was granted an application under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act for a 24-hour extension to the 36 hours allowed for questioning a suspect without charge.

No charges have been made, and if there are still none at the end of the 24-hour deadline, police will have to apply for a further extension or release Mr Palmer.

Mr Palmer, 36, wearing a pink tee-shirt and grey trousers, sat impassively in the dock during the 10-minute hearing before magistrate Mr Eric Crowther, which was held in camera. He was represented by Bristol solicitor Mr Philip Albery, who did not object to the police application.

Mr Albery said his client had consented to being held in custody for questioning for another 36 hours. "He did not apply for bail and he will probably appear tomorrow at the same court," Mr Albery said.

Mr Palmer, being questioned about the £26 million Brinks Mat gold bullion raid at Heathrow in 1983, was asked to leave Tenerife last Sunday under Spain's new alien laws. He was refused admission to Brazil because his passport had expired.

Sizeable drop in cost of winter package holidays

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Package holidays prices are now so low that tour operators have detected a trend towards three foreign holidays a year.

Intasun, Britain's second biggest tour operator, yesterday released its winter tour brochure with some prices between a fifth and nearly a third cheaper than last winter, with a wide range of cheap offers for families and the over-55 age group.

More than half the winter sun offerings and more than a third of ski holidays on offer from Thomas Cook Holidays, which also released its brochure yesterday, are cheaper than last winter.

However, both companies gave a warning that the price discounting was unlikely to last. Mr Roger Heape, Intasun's managing director, said that he expected an overall price increase next summer.

Mr Erich Reich, Thomas Cook's managing director, said: "The increases... could be anything between 5 and 10 per cent."

The average price of Cook's winter sun holidays has been reduced by 2 per cent, generally undercutting its competitors, he said.

Mr Heape said that there were still holidays available for the rest of this summer until September. While there would be some discounting, it

would be nothing like the situation last summer.

He said that with some prices also rising, particularly for winter sports, average overall prices would be about the same as last winter.

Mr Heape said that conflicting cost pressures would affect prices next summer. Exchange rates for holiday destination currencies, notably the Spanish peseta, were not as favourable as they had been, and it was difficult to estimate how long cheaper aviation fuel costs would continue.

The attitude of Spanish hoteliers had been "encouraging" because they did not seem to be following the pattern of demanding a disproportionate increase in room rates after a good season. But he gave a warning that there would be increased hotel charges because of higher rates of local inflation.

Intasun hopes to entice holidaymakers with offers, including free airport parking, while no-surge charges against currency changes or rises in fuel costs could amount to an extra bill of up to £10, or a similar-sized rebate.

New development puts historic Leeds 'at risk'

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Historic buildings in the centre of Leeds are under threat because of large development schemes which take no account of their impact on the heritage of the city, a report by Save Britain's Heritage says today.

The report, written by Mr Ken Powell, says that Leeds has retained much of its historic character but argues that heritage is being squandered in an uncritical pursuit of new development, often of the most inappropriate type.

It details a proposed development by MAB, a Dutch company, for a large site in Kirkstall, which he claims would involve the demolition of a considerable number of Victorian buildings.

"Most of Leeds market would be rebuilt, and also the scale of the development is likely to jeopardize the future of Boar Lane, one of the great historic streets of Leeds."

The report states that "the overriding aim in Leeds planning appears to remain, as it was 10 or even 20 years ago, to obtain large development schemes, regardless of their impact on the fabric."

Although there have been success stories, including the riverside area of central Leeds, a survey of local authority spending on conservation shows that Leeds ranked far below comparable cities.

Leeds: A Last Opportunity? (Save, 68 Battersea High Street, London SW11 5HX; £3).

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Licence fee indexed • Tender on ITV franchises • Industry reaction

PEACOCK REPORT

A brave new world envisaged for BBC

The recommendations
1. All new television sets sold or rented in the UK should be adapted to receive direct subscription services by January 1, 1988.

2. BBC TV should not be obliged to accept advertising under the present system of organization and regulation.

3. The licence fee should be indexed on an annual basis to the general rate of inflation.

4. The BBC should take over from the Post Office responsibility for collecting and enforcing the payment of licence fees.

5. A separate licence fee of not less than £10 should be charged for car radios.

6. Pensioners drawing supplementary pension in households wholly dependent on a pension should be exempt from the licence fee.

7. The BBC should have the option to privatize Radios One and Two and local radio. IBA regulation of independent radio should be replaced by a looser regime.

7a. (Submitted by five members of the committee) Radios One and Two should be privatized and financed by advertising. Subject to the Government's existing commitments to community radio, any further radio frequencies becoming available should be auctioned to the highest bidder.

8. The BBC and ITV should be required over 10 years to increase to at least 40 per cent the proportion of programmes supplied by independent producers.

9. The non-occupied night-time hours (1am to 6am) of the TV wavelengths of BBC and ITV should be sold for broadcasting.

10. ITV franchises should be put to competitive tender. If the IBA does not award a franchise to the highest bidder, it must make a full and public statement of its reasons.

11. Franchises should be awarded on a rolling review basis. There would be a formal IBA annual review of the contractor's performance.

12. Consideration should be given to extending the franchise periods, perhaps to 10 years.

13. Franchises for satellite broadcasting should be put to competitive tender.

14. Channel Four should be given the option of selling its own advertising time, and would no longer be funded by ITV subscriptions.

15. National telecommunication systems should be allowed to act as common carriers for a full range of services, including TV programmes.

16. The restriction of cable franchises to European Community operators should be removed.

17. All restrictions for both pay-per-channel and pay-per-programme as options should be removed.

18. As regulation is phased out, statutory legislation on obscenity, defamation, blasphemy, sedition and similar matters should be extended to cover broadcasting and any present exemptions should be removed.

● This report cannot be shelved because it raises issues that go far beyond the immediate interests of this Government
— Professor Alan Peacock

Report of the Committee on Financing the BBC (Stationary Office, £10.80).

Exchange of views discloses divisions

By Gavin Bell
Arts Correspondent

Divisions within the Peacock Committee on some of its key recommendations were reflected in an open exchange of views at a press conference yesterday in the Long Gallery of Lancaster House.

Mr Alastair Hetherington, a former Controller of BBC Scotland, described proposals by the majority for privatizing BBC Radios One and Two as "daft and damaging".

He was later chided by his co-panelist Mr Jeremy Hardie, an economist, for "again contradicting your own view" in an exchange on the future of public service broadcasting.

The six of the seven members of the Committee who attended the conference also gave widely varying predictions of what the BBC would look like in the twenty-first century.

Mr Hetherington reserved his sharpest criticism for the recommendation on BBC Radios One and Two by five members of the Committee: "Nobody has thought out exactly what would be sold. You can't sell Jimmy Young even if you wanted to."

He was supported by Miss Judith Chalmers, the TV and radio presenter, who said that selling the two radios would weaken the BBC radio network as a whole and threaten independent local radio already in financial difficulties.

Mr Hetherington also took issue with the recommendation by four members that all ITV franchises should be auctioned to the highest bidder: "I think it is unworkable, because it would be difficult to choose between a company with a long and good record of programming and one with no track record in television but plenty of money."

"It would also be extremely difficult for the IBA to enforce minimum requirements on a contractor."

On this occasion he was opposed by Mr Samuel Brittan, Assistant Editor of the *Financial Times*, who said



Professor Alan Peacock, who chaired the inquiry, with Judith Chalmers, a member of the committee, at Lancaster House yesterday after publication (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

that he was strongly in favour of selling the franchises.

"The byzantine process by which the IBA go into a huddle and decide that company X should be given the franchise is indefensible. It embodies everything I dislike about British corporatism, the cosy face-to-face establishment doing things by nods and winks rather than by due process."

For good measure, Mr Brittan added: "The present cosy IBA system is the root of cost inflation in broadcasting."

Mr Hetherington apparently agreed with Professor Peacock, the chairman, on the recommendation that both BBC and ITV should be required to take at least 40 per cent of their programmes from independent producers.

Responding to a suggestion from a television correspondent that there may not be sufficient quality production from independent sources, and that enforcing such a proposal

could lead to redundancies, Mr Peacock said: "At least you should be encouraging entry into the programme market. The BBC says the quality of the independent producers is not good enough. I believe it is up to the viewers to decide."

Mr Hetherington added: "If it leads to redundancies, that might not be a bad thing. I think it's a very good stimulus for better programme making and greater efficiency."

Differences of view emerged again in response to a question on the long-term future of the BBC. Everybody was quite clear that this was not at all clear — accurate predictions were impossible.

Mr Hardie saw the corporation's share of the overall television market shrinking considerably, but it would continue to maintain high quality standards.

Mr Hetherington said that he believed the BBC would become the biggest single provider of television pro-

grammes in Britain, although it would "have to tidy itself up if it wants to survive."

Miss Chalmers said it should be in a strong position in the twenty-first century. Mr Brittan believed it would have more freedom and flexibility, but Lord Quinton, the President of Trinity College, Oxford, saw it focusing on public service broadcasting.

Professor Peacock took a middle view, saying: "The BBC has a marvellous opportunity to do things they're good at."

In spite of the apparent differences of opinion, the Committee yesterday (minus Sir Peter Reynolds, a business executive, who sent his apologies) agreed that its report should be taken seriously by the Government.

Professor Peacock said: "My conviction is that this report cannot be shelved, in the sense that the issues go far beyond the immediate interests of this Government."

Industry fears too fast a rush into radical reorganization

By Gavin Bell, Arts Correspondent

The broadcasting industry reacted with varying degrees of caution and hostility to the Peacock Committee's vision of a radically new world of radio and television.

Diplomatic statements from the BBC and the Independent Broadcasting Authority welcomed its conclusion that the Corporation should not be obliged to accept advertising.

However Mr Stuart Young, Chairman of the BBC, and Mr Alastair Milne, its Director-General, expressed, respectively, reservations about suggestions for increasing the licence fee and concern about the dangers of an "over-eagerness" to sweep away existing regulations.

The IBA reserved judgement on the report's other main recommendations — notably for putting up independent TV franchises for auction — but Mr David Plowright, Chairman of the ITV Companies Association, denounced that proposal.

Mr Young recalled that the BBC had been pressing for easier ways of paying the licence fee, and he was pleased that the Committee had taken up that theme.

"I am also glad to see that it proposes that the BBC will have direct involvement in collecting the licence fee... We do not, however, believe the Retail Price Index is the appropriate indicator of those costs, but we shall continue to help in the search for a workable formula."

Mr Milne was less enthusiastic about the recommendation that the BBC and ITV should be required to accept at least 40 per cent of programmes from independent producers.

"The independent sector is growing and will continue to grow with our active support. However, much programme making, for example, news, current affairs and sport, is unlikely ever to lend itself to this type of production. As an overall figure, therefore, 40 per cent seems unrealistically high," he said.

He was not impressed with the Committee's split vote in favour of selling off BBC Radios One and Two: "It remains our policy to try to offer an effective range of programmes to all sections of

the public. We believe, therefore, that Radio One and Two listeners have the same claim to a share of the BBC licence fee as do the listeners to Radios Three and Four."

He welcomed the announcement that Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, is to produce a Green Paper on all radio issues.

Mr Milne reserved his sharpest criticism for the Committee's broad strategy of step-by-step deregulation.

"All of us are in favour of more programme choice for the public. Nevertheless there is the clear danger of an over-eagerness to deregulate, and to dismantle existing structures. If the reliable supply of good programmes is jeopardized, we all run the risk of being deprived as viewers and listeners of what we enjoy and appreciate — in effect having less real choice, not more, and probably at higher cost."

Standards fear

A brief IBA statement said that advertising on BBC Radio in its present form would seriously damage the viability of independent local radio. Many of the Committee's ideas would have wide-ranging implications for independent broadcasting, and the IBA would make its detailed views known when it had fully considered the report.

The Authority made no reference to the controversial proposal on selling ITV franchises, but its executives are known to oppose the idea.

Mr Plowright, whose association represents all the ITV companies, said: "A majority of the Committee appear to have shown scant concern for programme standards by advancing the notion that ITV contracts should be put up for auction. A tendering system would lead inexorably towards a concentration on profit performance rather than programme performance."

The result would be fewer programmes from regional centres, fewer information and education programmes, and an excess of entertainment shows.

Channel Four call

Mr Plowright was equally opposed to the suggestion that Channel Four might sell its own advertising: "If Channel Four had to accept the costs of collecting its own advertising revenue and financing its own service, the type of programmes it offers would change towards majority interests."

"The result would be that Channel 4 would mirror ITV and BBC-1. There would be no widening of choice, simply more of the same."

The proposal to increase substantially independent production on ITV would distort the balance of regional services.

TECHNOLOGY

Viewing without frontiers

To prepare for subscription services in a world of "television without frontiers", all new television sets should have a special socket and associated electronics.

Some 18 per cent of sets now being sold in the United Kingdom already have them. The cost is estimated at £25, but viewers would also need a decoder to plug into the socket and this was likely to cost a further £50.

Subscription would eventually replace the licence fee as the main source of BBC income — an estimated 75 to 80 per cent of viewers are expected to make the switch — while ITV would continue to depend on advertising.

However, if it wished to do so, the BBC could finance some of its operations by advertising and the ITV companies could sell some of their programmes by subscription.

Direct broadcasting by satellite (DBS), which is favoured by the Government, would bring an enormous variety of programmes from overseas into British homes. The cost of a dish aerial not more than 90 cm in diameter would be about £200. There are as yet no fully operational systems, but a number are expected to start within the next three years.

Transmission — There is a case for establishing a common authority in the 1990s to take over the transmission responsibilities of the BBC and the IBA and to link up satellite and other services.

National cable grid — Present anti-monopoly regulations restrict the growth of cable viewing and make it relatively expensive, so they should be changed to allow British Telecom, Mercury and any other contractors freedom to provide a full range of television services.

BT is replacing trunk and regional telephone networks with optic fibre cables, which can carry a large number of messages simultaneously at almost no extra cost. If it was allowed to carry additional services, particularly cable television, it would become economic to start replacing local copper wire circuits with optic fibre.

Similar restriction of cable franchises to European Community-owned operators was inhibiting development, and should be removed.

ADVERTISING

Proposal would limit choice

Advertisements should not be introduced into the BBC because it would not benefit viewers or listeners, the Committee concluded.

In spite of an estimated growth in future advertising revenues, the move was rejected because it would diminish the satisfaction and range of choice available to viewers and listeners.

"The main defect of a system based on advertising finance is that channel owners do not sell programmes to audiences, but audiences to advertisers," the Committee said.

"The difference between the two concepts would narrow if there were a sufficiently large number of channels without concentration of ownership... but these conditions do not prevail and are unlikely to for some time."

The Committee said that advertising would drive the BBC into a ratings war and put financial pressure on ITV companies, making it more

difficult for them to meet IBA requirements.

"The result could be an inadequate supply of programmes... which do not achieve top audience ratings."

One consequence of not introducing advertising to BBC Television was that a projected growth in advertising revenue in real terms would provide additional finance for cable and satellite technology.

An apparent attraction of advertising finance for the BBC, compared with the licence fee, was the superficial impression that it provided "free" broadcasting services. But there was no longer a "free lunch" in broadcasting.

The volume of advertising would rise if it were extended to the BBC, but, paradoxically, elasticity of demand could lead to an actual decline in advertising expenditure.

In debating whether advertising would benefit viewers and listeners, the committee said: "An advertising-support-

ed system will lead to programme diversity only to the extent that different advertisers are willing to pay to associate their messages with different programmes."

The commercial viability of a programme in such a system depended upon its commanding large audiences to attract advertising.

For example, a station could be forced to broadcast a comedy programme with 10 million viewers at the expense of an arts programme that had only 6 million viewers. Nevertheless, some keen arts enthusiasts might be prepared to pay considerably more for their programme than others for the comedy show.

"The proposition illustrated by this example is that an advertising-supported system aims to maximize advertising revenues, so that the programmes which are presented would not necessarily reflect true viewer preferences as given by their willingness to pay."

VIEWERS

Emphasis placed on consumer

The Committee dismisses the prospect of people spending most of their time facing a bewildering set of dials, trying to make up their minds between thousands of alternative programmes.

Instead, it envisages that they would simply buy packages of programmes or whole channels.

In the background to its report, the Committee outlines broadcasting systems in North America, western Europe and Japan, and makes clear that it hopes Britain would not go as far as the United States, where only a small public service sector survives in a commercial operation.

It also admits that many foreign broadcasting officials were deeply envious of the British system, and advises that nothing should be done to hasten the break-up of the present financial arrangements.

The analysis and recommendations were offered as a foundation on which others could build. It suggests that a Commons select committee could monitor future developments.

The Committee adds: "We have neither sought to 'get the BBC off the hook' nor to persecute it."

PENSIONERS

Financial help for poor is preferred

The Committee had difficulty over whether to propose any alleviation for pensioners. Local radio: A number of Britain's 48 independent local radio stations are in financial trouble, largely because of increasing competition for advertising and there are no signs of future improvement. Two have closed in the past two years, and others have merged.

The Committee recommends that IBA regulation should be relaxed, and suggests that some independent radio stations could merge with BBC radios.

One approach would be to allow the BBC to take over all ILR stations at a negotiated price, and the stronger ILR stations to buy out any radio the BBC was prepared to sell: an added incentive could be a requirement that the BBC must offset every purchase by a sale. Once merged, stations must be allowed to take advertising.

In this context, the larger ILR companies ought to be able to own smaller associated stations which could opt in and out of a regional support service.

Care should be taken that mergers do not destroy local services. For example, a station formed by the merger of a music-based independent radio and a speech-based BBC radio should cater for these different interests.

ITV FRANCHISES

Cost - quality conflict

This was the most contentious issue facing the Committee. Four of its members recommended that they be put on the market, on the grounds that the present discretionary allocation by the Independent Broadcasting Authority did not offer sufficient incentive to economize on costs.

The IBA could award a contract to a lower bidder if it believed it to be offering better value for money in public service terms, but it would have to make a public and detailed statement of its reasons, it was suggested.

Three members feared that

the cure would be worse than the disease. The Committee said that the proposal required further discussion.

It would be very concerned if the quality of service were to be reduced, and would still expect the IBA to lay down minimum criteria.

There was no dissent on a supplementary proposal for annual reviews to be based on a soccer-style "yellow card" and "red card" system. The first would warn a contractor that the required standards were not being met, and the second, a year later, would entail loss of the franchise.

Critics oppose 'jumble'

The National Union of Journalists dismissed the Peacock report as "a jumble of right-wing prejudices spiced with pie-in-the-sky predictions about the technology of the future."

Mr Harry Conroy, the General Secretary, said it had failed to answer the challenge posed by cable and satellite systems, or to ensure that the broadcasting industry represented viewers and listeners. Any sale of BBC Radios 1 and 2 would mean the end of commercial local radio.

It was remarkable, he said, that even a "rigged" committee, packed with free-marketiers and government sympathizers, had been unable to meet Mrs Thatcher's demand for the licence fee to be replaced by advertising.

"Peacock claims that his proposals will put viewers and listeners in the driving seat. In fact, his proposals for a commercial free-for-all, with the highest bidder always winning, would simply put broadcasting into the hands of the media barons who already control so much of the printed word."

Mr Alan Sapper, General Secretary of the Association of Cinematograph and Allied Technicians, said there was room for improvement in the broadcasting system and especially for more democratic control.

However the proposal for greater independent production would threaten up to 50,000 redundancies in the BBC and ITV networks.

Radio Luxembourg said it did not think there was much wrong with the BBC that a good financial manager could not cure, and there was not enough wrong with the present system to require dramatic change.

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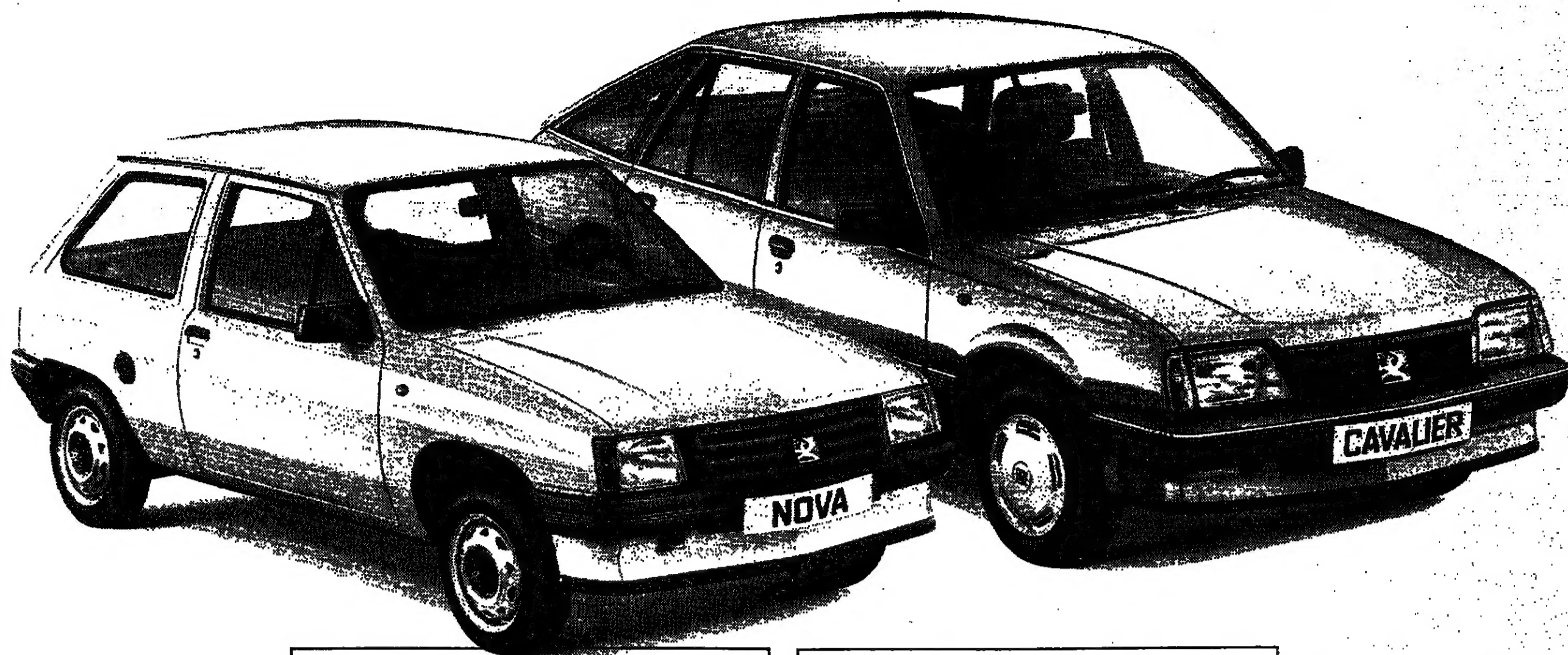
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Recommended Retail Price*	£7,477.08	£7,477.08
20% minimum deposit (cash or trade-in)	£1,495.42	£1,495.42
Finance Charges	£657.04	£879.22
Total credit price	£8,135.02	£8,356.30
Monthly repayments	£221.32	£190.58
Equivalent weekly amount	£51.07	£43.98
Customer saving compared to the credit provider's 10.5% interest (20.7% APR) in force immediately prior to 1st July 1986.	£912.25	£1,005.00

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Chilean military cracks down ruthlessly on two-day general strike

From Lake Sagaris, Santiago

Chile's military Government has responded harshly to a two-day general strike that ended yesterday, and which was organized by the National Assembly of Civil Society, the country's largest opposition coalition.

The Interior Ministry has charged 17 of the 23-member NACS national council with violating state security laws. The authorities also banned the news broadcasts of four radio stations often critical of the 13-year-old military Government. Among them are Chile's most popular station, Radio Cooperativa.

Government lawyers said they would file charges against some communications media and columnists of the press who, in some way through their articles, called on people to participate.

The two-day work stoppage was called by the NACS a month ago, after the Government failed to respond to a list of demands, which included a rapid return to democracy. The strike began early on Wednesday, with few buses

and taxis on the roads, and high absenteeism at schools, hospitals and in workplaces. Most stores did not open, or closed early. Santiago was virtually deserted by 9 pm.

Demonstrations at noon in Santiago and other big cities were harshly repressed by police. Military patrols have been implicated in the death of two people. A third person was shot by unidentified civilians.

Witnesses say a soldier shot and killed 13-year-old Nadia Fuentes when she went out to buy bread on Wednesday morning.

Night after night truckloads of troops moved into the vast, poor areas that ring Santiago, helicopters circled, and the sound of gunfire could be heard in most parts of the city. At least 20 people received bullet wounds.

Two university students are in a grave condition, with serious burns, after being found on an isolated road. Señor Andrés Domínguez, of the Chilean Human Rights Commission, said they were

injured after being arrested by a military patrol.

The Army has denied that soldiers deliberately burned the students. The government has announced an official investigation.

Throughout the two days and nights bombs went off in Santiago and other cities. On Wednesday night there was a blackout in much of the country after power lines were bombed.

The NACS president, Dr Juan Luis González, deplored the use of violence to repress peaceful demonstrations.

He called on security forces to end the fratricidal confrontation which is decimating our people.

The strike had been successful beyond the organizers' hopes and "this must increase our faith in our legitimate right to continue".

● HAMBURG: Chilean exiles here invaded the Chilean consulate-general for two hours in protest at the military regime (Reuters reports).

Optimism on summit by Reagan

From Mohsin Ali Washington

President Reagan has said that correspondence with Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, makes him optimistic that they will hold a summit meeting this year.

The President, in an interview yesterday in *USA Today*, made clear that no date had been set so far.

He said he was preparing a reply to Mr Gorbachev's "worthwhile" letter to him last week, in which the Soviet leader made additional proposals not only on arms control but on regional conflicts, human rights and immigration.

The President, observing that this had "opened additional doors", said: "It makes me optimistic that we're not only going to have a summit, but that we're going to have a summit where we can reach agreement on some of the goals we share."

He added that "now we have reason to believe a meeting is possible" between Mr George Shultz and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the US and Soviet Foreign Ministers, to prepare for a summit.

Weizsäcker in twin city of Cardiff

President Richard von Weizsäcker of West Germany yesterday visited Cardiff, which is twinned with his home city of Stuttgart (Patria Clogh writes).

He met representatives of 26 Welsh towns twinned with West German towns and visited St David's Hall to see a stained glass screen presented to Cardiff by the citizens of Stuttgart.

Back in London, the President later played host to the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh at a banquet in the West German Ambassador's residence. Today he begins two days of unofficial engagements.

Lebanese unite to condemn misery

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

The gunman in jeans and blue denim jacket stood in the middle of Hamra Street yesterday, just outside the Lebanese Ministry of Information.

The soldiers beside him were Lebanese. But he was a Syrian, a tall, bored security policeman with a bushy moustache and an automatic rifle dangling nonchalantly from his right hand, moving from car to car like a tired golfer walking the fairway.

Each driver was ordered to open the boot of his vehicle. Each did as he was told. Every morning paper had talked about security, and yesterday morning the Syrians were very definitely in charge.

Almost 100 Lebanese have been arrested over the past three days for carrying weapons. Nearly every militia office in the western, Muslim, sector of the city has been "visited" by the Syrian Mubabarat (security service).

"They turned up like we expected," a middle-aged Druze official said. "They found some old socks and some shoes in my office. We are obeying the rules."

Or so it seemed. In west Beirut — in fact, in all Lebanon save Israel's occupation zone in the south — the population had gone on strike throughout the day in protest at their own domestic war and at their personal poverty, brought about by the very same internal conflict which they had so long bewailed yet tolerated.

For the first time in years, Christians and Muslims joined in condemning the misery of their broken country.

Even the rival militia radio stations, more used to abusing each other than speaking with a single voice, cancelled their programmes for 20 minutes.

Afghan defector 'in Europe'

Islamabad — The Pakistan Foreign Office said that Mr Baz Mohammad Rahyab, Afghanistan's acting Consul-General in Karachi who reportedly defected last month, had left for a European capital (Hasan Akhtar writes).

But Afghan diplomats said the lack of more positive information about the departure of Mr Rahyab with his wife and infant daughter, and their present whereabouts, proved that he had not defected but had been kidnapped.

Canberra reeling from economic blows

Hawke begins to lose his touch

From Tony Debonin, Melbourne

The Hawke magic appears to be fading as economic woes beset the Australian Government and the Prime Minister's popularity takes a plunge.

The Government has fallen victim to a number of outside factors beyond its control, namely falling world prices for minerals, the US dispute with the EEC over farm prices, in which Australia is caught in the firing line between two economic giants, and industrial unrest, which has led to uncertainty among foreign investors about the country's future direction.

The world slump in mineral prices means, for example, that a state like Western Australia, which accounts for about 20 per cent of Australia's mineral export income, faces a drop in royalty payments on exports of 17 per cent.

The US agricultural subsidy policy is also having a serious effect on Australian farmers and the economy. Mr John Kerin, Minister for Primary Industry, told officials in Washington on Tuesday that the US policy was costing Australian farmers one-third of their net income.

In the past few days the poor economic outlook has been exacerbated by a national strike by 9,000 dockers. They agreed yesterday to return to work today so that further talks can be held with employers.

The industrial uncertainty, plus the Government's announcement that some ex-

emptions to the 10 per cent withholding tax on overseas borrowings would be scrapped — meaning that investors who had not been liable will now have to pay — led to a dramatic drop in the value of the dollar, and one of the biggest one-day declines in the All Ordinaries share index — 25.6 points, or 2.1 per cent.

The fall continued at the start of trading yesterday, with the index sliding more than 16 points. The All Ordinaries index has lost more than 100



Mr Hawke: opinion poll says he could lose power.

points since its high of 1,246.9 on May 7 this year. The Australian dollar dropped to 65.5 cents against the US dollar and to about 42p against the pound on local foreign exchange markets on Wednesday, and the slide continued yesterday.

As the budget deficit heads for \$A6,000 million, compared with the target of \$A4,919 million, and the balance of payments deficit continues to grow, the Government is being called on to present a "horror" budget.

Canberra has already imposed a freeze on numbers in the public service, and is reviewing functions and staffing levels. The tax on employee fringe benefits, introduced on Tuesday, has cost the Government popularity with the business community.

Mr Hawke's troubles were capped by a Morgan Gallup Poll published in *The Bulletin* magazine, which indicated that the state of the economy has caused a swing big enough to unseat the Government.

The poll, done on June 21-22, showed that support for the Government had dropped to 46 per cent. Had an election been held then, the Liberal-National Party coalition, with a popularity rating of 47 per cent, would have won power.

Mr Hawke's personal popularity dipped by five points to 53 per cent, while the personal rating of Mr John Howard, the Opposition leader, remained steady at 31 per cent.



Women guerrillas training this week at a communist camp on the Philippines island of Samar, despite preparations for ceasefire talks between rebel leaders and the Aquino Government to end 17 years of insurgency.

Colombo accused by bishop

Colombo (Reuters) — A Sri Lankan Roman Catholic bishop has accused the Government of pursuing a policy of annihilating Tamils in rebel strongholds.

Mgr Bastianpillai Deogupillai, Bishop of Jaffna, said government attacks against guerrillas fighting for a separate Tamil state in northern and eastern Sri Lanka had killed hundreds of civilians and left thousands homeless.

Mgr Deogupillai, a Tamil, has been a critic of government anti-insurgency operations. His remarks were made in a speech, excerpts from which were published yesterday in the independent daily *The Island*.

The military's Joint Operations Command denied the bishop's charges.

Bomb blast in Cape Town

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

South Africa yesterday suffered its 11th urban bomb incident since the state of emergency was declared on June 12. Three people have been killed and 101 injured in these attacks, most of them whites.

Meanwhile, the police announced that they had arrested four suspected members of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC) near Pretoria yesterday. The men were being questioned about an attack on the home of a black policeman on June 11 and a landmine explosion on June 26.

The latest explosion occurred outside a police station in Mowbray, a white suburb of Cape Town, yesterday morning. A white policeman, Constable Andries Thompson, and a young policeman, also white, whose name has not yet been disclosed, were injured. The Government's Bureau

Trade squeeze

Importers and exporters in Finland will have to apply for a special licence to trade with South Africa from July 15 (AP reports from Helsinki).

for information in Pretoria, the only source of official news on the incident, described their injuries as "slight". On the economic front, the South African Finance Minister, Mr Barend du Plessis, has confirmed that Pretoria "would have to consider not repaying its international loans if the country were to be placed in an intolerable situation" by sanctions.

Mr du Plessis's statement was intended to calm the alarm caused among foreign bankers by remarks made to the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee last Tuesday by Dr Denis Worrall, the South African Ambassa-

dor to Britain. In fact, it merely re-stated Dr Worrall's comments in more diplomatic language.

"I do not say it will happen, but if there were sanctions on the scale indicated by the (Commonwealth) Eminent Persons Group, then South Africa certainly would consider not repaying its international loans. All Mexico and a few others need is a precedent and it would bring down the whole Western financial system," Dr Worrall was quoted here as telling the committee.

Mr du Plessis said that Dr Worrall had not been making a threat of retaliation but had merely pointed out that a country "prevented from exporting will obviously not be able to earn foreign exchange required for meeting its other financial commitments".

Up to now, he added, South Africa had "scrupulously complied with all the obligations" it had accepted.

Britons against Channel tunnel

Brussels (Reuters) — Most Europeans back the plan for a Channel tunnel linking Britain and France, but not the British, according to an opinion poll published yesterday by the EEC's executive commission.

The poll, conducted in 12 member states, showed that 58 per cent of those interviewed were in favour. The majority in favour in France was 64 per cent, with 6 per cent against. Britons divided 46 per cent to 31 per cent against.

Two detained

A Madrid magistrate investigating the bomb attack a week ago on an El Al flight at Barajas Airport here ordered a Palestinian and a Spaniard to be held *incommunicado* until further notice yesterday.

90% inflation

Belgrade (AP) — The annual inflation rate in Yugoslavia has passed the 90 per cent mark.

Killer bolt

Zamboanga City, Philippines (AP) — A lightning bolt killed six people and wounded 15 others in a farming village in southern Zamboanga del Sur province, police said.

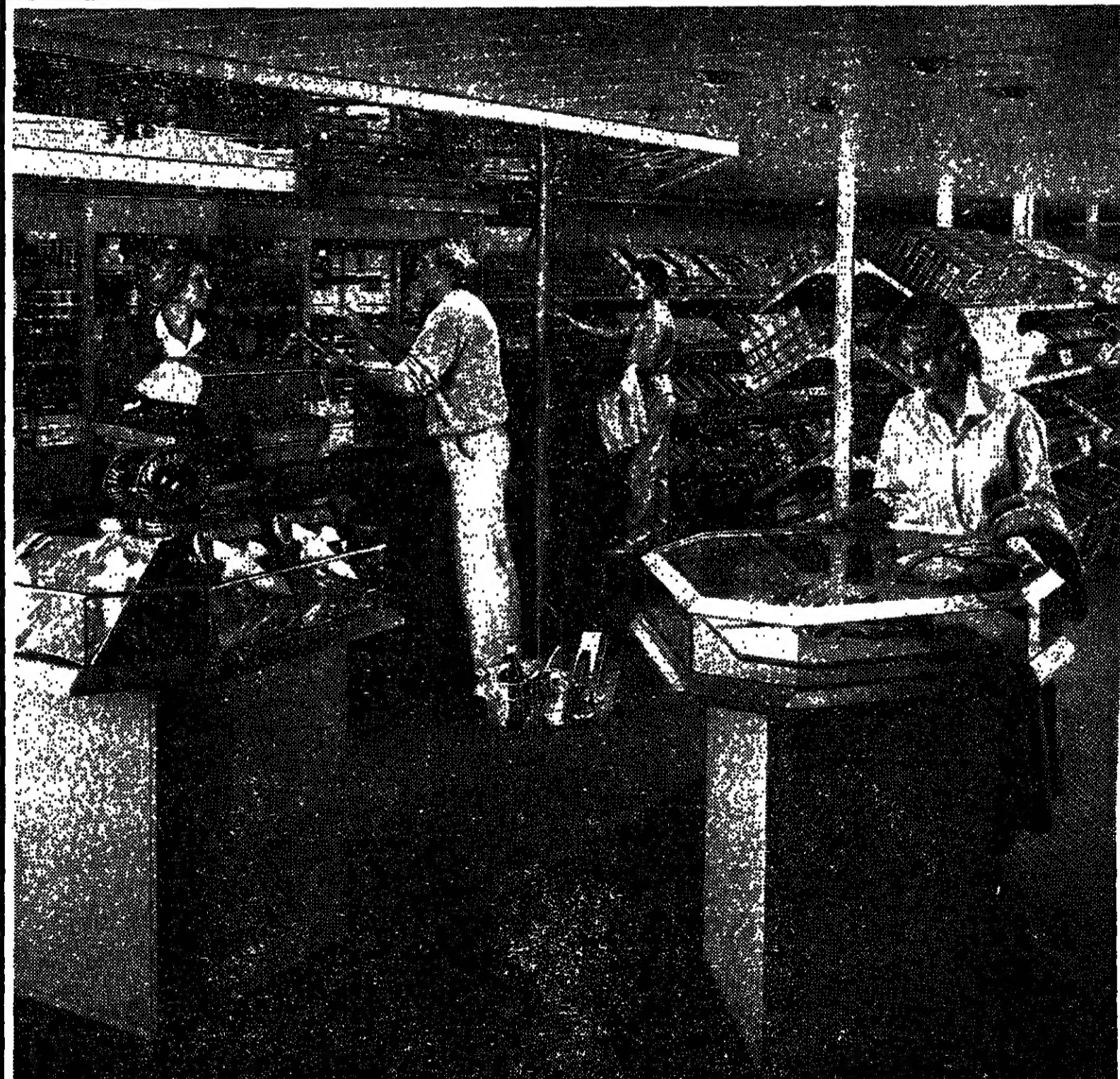
Pilots fired

Buenos Aires (Reuters) — Pilots striking over pay and conditions shut down the state airline Aerolineas Argentina for the second day. The company responded by firing 45 pilots, bringing total dismissals to 118, company sources said.

Correction

The number of US states with statutes outlawing sodomy is 24 plus the District of Columbia, and not more than 30 as stated on Tuesday.

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Concessions expected in Poland as Jaruzelski bolsters party position

The Polish leader, General Wojciech Jaruzelski, has emerged from this week's Communist Party congress more firmly in control of the party and, now that he has earned explicit Kremlin approval, may well make a number of important concessions to the people and the Roman Catholic Church.

That is the view of Jaruzelski supporters and, even if one discounts a tendency to overstate the general, it appears to be an accurate analysis.

The results of the Central Committee balloting on Wednesday night were still secret yesterday, but party leaks indicated that the completion of the new body was more obviously in the Jaruzelski image: skilled workers, managers, academic economists, professional party organizers, military and police candidates were all on the way up.

The Politburo line-up will lose such figures as the relatively liberal sociologist, Mr Hieronim Kubiak, and will probably see the Interior Minister, General Czeslaw Kiszczak — a close ally of General Jaruzelski — move up from alternate to full Politburo membership.

The question of how to restore faith in the Communist Party was reduced at the congress to the question of how to achieve better economic results for the country.

A successful economy and better living standards will give strength to the debilitated party: that is the diagnosis of the Jaruzelski loyalists, and it was never seriously doubted during the congress debates.

There was no headline chal-

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

lenge to the general, though there were predictable attacks on private business — because his managers had anticipated all lines of criticism.

Church-state relations had been more or less on ice in the months preceding the congress, so hardliners could not criticize him for being soft on Catholics.

The general himself led the criticism of the economy, and in so doing stole the clothes of his dogmatic opponents.

He was tough on the West.



General Jaruzelski: a lot of room for manoeuvre.

and the recent weeks of publicized police successes — the arrest, for example, of Zbigniew Bujak — have shown that he is not neglecting law and order.

Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's flattery of General Jaruzelski — sharp political vision, courage and so on — made it quite clear that the Soviet Union is not cultivating a rival. But this statement of trust also transfers some responsibility on to the shoulders of the current party leadership.

It is no longer enough, say the more active reformers, to justify timidity in political or economic reform by pointing eastwards and explaining that Moscow might disapprove. The general has more room for manoeuvre than at any time since becoming party chief in October 1981.

The first step has already been announced: political prisoners will be freed under an amnesty, perhaps this month, perhaps later in the summer.

Solidarity says there are more than 300 political prisoners. Officials put the figure lower, but say all but about 20 will be freed. The problem comes with how to follow up the amnesty.

There will certainly be bargaining with the Catholic Church as the preparations for the Pope's visit next year accelerate. Lay Catholics may receive a new publishing house; the long-awaited agricultural fund for private farmers may be approved.

Critics of General Jaruzelski say that, although he has more freedom of initiative now than at any time in five years, he shows no real signs of wanting to capitalize on it.

The rising stars of the new Central Committee are above all technocrats, men who can bring the party up to date on the economy.

It was a well-disciplined congress, with none of the saw debates of the last one, in 1981, when Solidarity was pumping ozone into the system. The products of the congress, the new leaders of Communist Poland, are similarly restrained, cautious men, elected in a cautious age.



A woman trying on the jeans she bought from a vending machine in a Paris underground station. The machine delivers jeans in 10 sizes.

Russians put Chernobyl death toll at 27

Geneva (AFP) — A total of 27 people died in the Chernobyl disaster, 187 are undergoing medical treatment, and 100,000 were evacuated from around the plant, the Soviet delegation chief, Mr Viktor Issraelyan, told the UN Disarmament Conference here yesterday.

He said a big radiation monitoring operation was still

under way around the crippled reactor, wrecked by an explosion on April 25.

Despite an improvement in the situation, life would not return to normal for some time in part of the contaminated zone. The 100,000 people were evacuated from a 20-mile radius round the plant in the Ukraine.

Radioactivity levels were

being checked by 200 fixed and a dozen mobile monitoring stations, and by aircraft with measuring instruments.

Water samples were taken every hour from open reservoirs and rivers, and 800 laboratories were analysing radioactivity levels in the earth.

At the conference Mr Issraelyan also called on nations to develop reliable mea-

sures to deter nuclear terrorism, saying that Chernobyl showed how dangerous such terrorism would be.

NEW YORK: Five of 13 Chernobyl victims who received bone-marrow transplants were still alive and were likely to survive, Dr Robert Gale, the California doctor who assisted Soviet physicians with the operations, said (AP reports).

Norway calls a halt to whale hunts

Oslo (Reuters) — Norway, bowing to international pressure, announced yesterday that it will halt commercial whaling from next year.

The Foreign Minister, Mr Knut Frydenlund, said whaling would be scaled down from the end of the current season. Norway would continue catching whales for scientific purposes.

Norway is the last member of the International Whaling Commission to agree to stop whaling.

Greenpeace, which has been trying to disrupt whaling off northern Norway, said by radio from the protest ship Moby Dick: "This is a great victory for environmentalists."

He said the ship would give up its four-week-old protest and return to Oslo. It has been arrested three times for entering Norwegian waters illegally.

Although Norway has scaled down its annual quota of Minke whales to 400 this year from almost 2,000 in the early 1980s, the industry has been a severe embarrassment for the new Labour Government of Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland, who heads a UN environmental commission.

Norway had resisted all efforts to persuade it to halt Minke whaling, rejecting arguments that whales were in danger of extinction.

The Government says it will set up an independent study group to examine differing claims by scientists on Minke stocks.

Government sources said the United States had threatened to block all Norwegian fisheries imports — worth 1.2 billion kroner (£103 million) a year — unless Oslo halted whaling.

Iraqi jets knock out radio links in Iran

Nicosia (AP) — Iraqi planes knocked out Iran's telecommunications centre, cutting its links with the rest of the world, as heavy fighting continued for a fourth day, reports from the two countries said.

An Iraqi war communiqué broadcast yesterday by state radio in Baghdad said the Air Force carried out 150 sorties against vital Iranian installations.

The radio quoted a military spokesman as saying Iran's Asadabad telecommunication centre, 137 miles from the border, was on fire on Wednesday evening.

The strikes had inflicted "massive losses on the enemy", but the spokesman gave no details on the other targets. He said all Iraqi planes returned safely.

Iran said its infantry units staged widespread mopping-up operations in and around Mehran, the border city recaptured by Iran in its offensive launched on Monday night.

Its state radio did not report any disruption in telecommunications. Cyprus telecommunications said all links with Tehran were cut late on Wednesday night. Some links, however, appeared to have been restored yesterday.

The raids came as Iran was using the Asadabad centre to trumpet its victory over Iraq at Mehran. The Iranians claimed to have killed or wounded up to 2,500 Iraqis and captured more than 1,000 in the onslaught. Mehran is seen as a vital launching pad for any Iranian push to Baghdad across semi-desert.

Iraq claimed on Wednesday that its forces brought down two Iranian warplanes, one in a dogfight over Mehran and the other by anti-aircraft fire.

Kyprianou cuts short Paris visit

From Diana Geddes, Paris

President Kyprianou of Cyprus wanted a solution which was "acceptable to all and in conformity with the principles of human rights and the right of peoples to decide their own fate," he insisted.

Mr Chirac greatly infuriated Athens in May, when he appeared to put Greece and Turkey on the same footing.

The French Socialists had always shown a marked coolness towards Turkey.

ATHENS: Greece has asked Britain, current president of the EEC, to consider the cancellation of the EEC-Turkey Association Council meeting due on September 16, as a token of the EEC's disapproval of Mr Ozal's visit to northern Cyprus (Mario Modiano writes).

The request was made yesterday by Mr Theodoros Pangalos, the Greek Minister of State, to Mr Jeremy Thomas, the British Ambassador in Athens. He asked for a British condemnation of Mr Ozal's visit, which he described as "a threat to peace."

Lawyers march against Ozal's Cyprus trip

Nicosia (AP) — Scores of Greek Cypriot lawyers pushed past United Nations peace-keeping troops here yesterday to march into the "no man's land" that divides Nicosia.

They delivered a protest against the visit to northern Cyprus by the Turkish Prime Minister, Mr Turgut Ozal.

Later the UN peace-keeping troops dismantled the barricade they had erected to keep angry Greek demonstrators away from the "no man's land."

More than 400 black-robed lawyers, including Mr Demetrios Liveras, the Justice Minister, took part in the demonstration on the second day of Mr Ozal's visit to the breakaway Turkish Cypriot state in the Turkish-occupied north of the island.

After a brief scuffle with several blue-bellied Canadian UN soldiers, the lawyers

broke through the cordon. They advanced within 100 yards of Turkish troops manning the "green line" that divides Nicosia.

When their progress was blocked by a UN armoured personnel carrier, the lawyers delivered a written protest to a UN officer.

"The illegal visit of the Turkish Prime Minister, Mr Ozal, to the part of the territory of the Republic of Cyprus which is under the control of the occupation forces of Turkey,"

Mr Ozal talks: The Turkish Prime Minister held talks yesterday on a plan to boost the economy of the breakaway territory (Reuters reports).

Mr Ozal and Mr Dervis Eroglu, the Prime Minister of Northern Cyprus, looked at ways Turkey might help to encourage trade and tourism.

Distant quasar widens known limits of space

Pasadena, California (AP) — The most distant object observed in the universe has been identified by astronomers as a quasar so far away from Earth that its visible light was produced 12 billion years ago, researchers say.

Discovery of the quasar, a mysterious star-like mass 73 billion trillion miles from Earth, raised the possibility that even more distant quasars may exist at the fringe of the cosmos.

Quasars, first discovered in 1963, are mysterious objects that appear in the sky as star-like masses but seem to generate more energy than 100 billion stars. There are about 3,500 known quasars.

In one hour, some quasars spew energy equal to the amount generated during the Sun's entire lifetime.

Aquino to visit Washington in September

By Our Foreign Staff

Manila (UPI) — President Corason Aquino has accepted an invitation from President Reagan to visit the United States, the Philippines Information Minister, Mr Teodoro Locsin, said yesterday. She was tentatively scheduled to arrive in Washington on September 17.

In a television interview Mrs Aquino said that during her visit she would seek "more assistance" from the United States and more liberal terms from creditor banks.

Meanwhile, a Philippines Supreme Court panel yesterday rejected an appeal to summon ex-President Marcos from exile to answer charges that he whitewashed the trial of people accused of the murder of Benigno Aquino.

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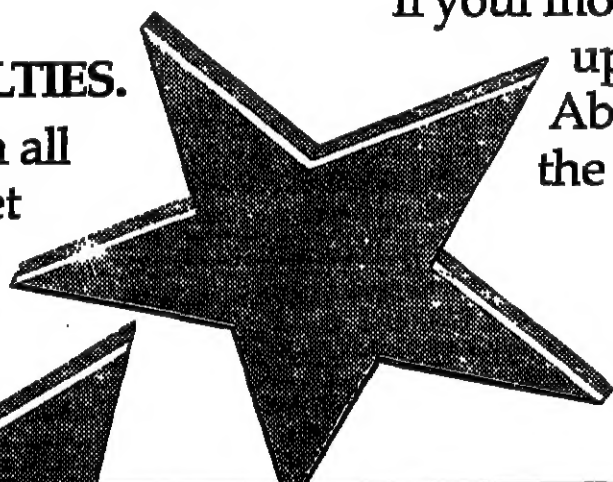
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Iraqi jets knock out radio links in Iran

Nicosia (AP) — Iraqi planes knocked out Iran's radio links with the rest of the world as heavy fighting continued for a fourth day in the two countries.

An Iraqi war correspondent broadcast yesterday on the radio in Baghdad said the Iraqis had cut off Iran's radio links with the rest of the world.

The radio station said the Iraqis had cut off Iran's radio links with the rest of the world.

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Pope works a Colombian miracle

From Geoffrey Matthews, Bogotá

The Pope continued his pilgrimage for peace in Colombia yesterday by journeying to the town of Chiquiquira to pay homage at a portrait of the Virgin whose fading colours are said to have been miraculously revived 400 years ago in response to the prayers of a local woman.

Meanwhile, it was the continuing miracle of the Pope's visit itself that was being celebrated. When he began his seven-day tour on Tuesday, he arrived in a country both apprehensive for his safety and alarmed by escalating civil conflict.

Yet from the moment he kissed the ground at Bogotá airport after the 13-hour flight from Rome, he showed himself in command of a potentially sensitive situation. His humanity, good humour and correct Spanish quickly won the hearts of Colombians.

He has surprised many by his detailed knowledge of the nation's history, and pleased Colombians with his tributes to their "great culture", frequently referring to Bogotá's long tradition as a centre of academic learning.

Church leaders have been surprised by the size and fervour of the crowds lining the routes taken by the Pope. It is estimated that 700,000 packed the Simón Bolívar Park here on Wednesday when he celebrated a "Mass for peace".

The Pope's pronouncements during the service may well prove the most important of his visit. It was, it is generally agreed, a magisterial performance, but observers are divided over what may prove to be the long-term impact of his impassioned appeal to the nation's guerrillas to abandon the armed struggle.

His visit has boosted the standing of President Betancur, whose four-year term ends in a few weeks.



People reaching out to touch the Pope as he made his way to a meeting in Bogotá with bishops and educationists.

Without referring directly to Señor Betancur's repeated attempts to make peace, the Pope has on several occasions spoken of "generous initiatives aimed at fostering dialogue and concord towards achieving a stable peace".

Papal pleas for an end to political violence have been heard before in neighbouring Peru and Central America, not to mention Northern Ireland, without any apparent effect.

Most observers doubt that the belligerent and increasingly incoherent April 19 Movement (M19), which turned down Señor Betancur's peace offer, will respond positively, although one said: "While M19 guerrillas themselves will remain intransigent, the Pope's appeal could have the effect of curbing recruitment to their ranks."

In time it may also prove

that the Pope helped to maintain the fragile ceasefire made by the Betancur administration with the biggest guerrilla group, the Moscow-line Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, which the incoming government of Señor Virgilio Barco Vargas will inherit on August 7.

The Pope has also emphasized the need for social reform and redistribution of national wealth, a point he again made when he met Señor Barco, who has promised to try to undercut the guerrillas by building on an improving economic situation.

Today the Pope is to visit the port of Tumaco, the city of Popayán, famous for its Spanish Colonial churches and monasteries, which were devastated by an earthquake three years ago.

Spending spree, page 12

Protest in Dhaka as MPs take oath

From Ahmed Fazl, Dhaka

Some 5,000 people shouted "Down with martial law" and "Long live democracy" in the Bangladesh Parliament here yesterday as 98 deputies, led by the Opposition leader, Sheikh Hasina Wazed, took the oath as newly-elected MPs.

Sheikh Hasina, leader of the Awami League, the largest opposition group in the House, told the slogan-chanting crowd which had forced its way into the building that, although opposition members had taken their oath, they would boycott Parliament to protest against martial law.

She accused President Ershad of breaking his pledge to lift martial law, as Parliament began its inaugural session. General Ershad summoned the new Parliament for July 10 but said martial law would continue until the elections.

Sheikh Hasina announced that there would be protest rallies on July 10.

● Tribal killings: Twelve people were killed in a spate of attacks by "Shanti Bahini" tribal insurgents fighting for a separate homeland in Bangladesh's south-eastern Chittagong Hill Tracts district. Interior Ministry officials said yesterday.

The guerrillas raided two Bengali villages in the Manikchhari district, gunning down settlers and setting houses ablaze.

Local commanders reporting from the Regional Army Headquarters in the town of Rangamati, about 280 miles from Dhaka, said that the separatists, who were armed with automatic weapons, left the villages after a clash with security forces.

The authorities said the guerrillas had earlier blown up a road bridge.

Peking woos both East and West

From A Correspondent, Peking

China's Vice-Premier, Mr Li Peng, laid great emphasis on economic and technical ties between Western Europe and China in a meeting with M Jacques Delors, president of the EEC Commission.

"The European Community is a strong economic and political entity whose unity will play an important role in safeguarding world peace," Mr Li told M Delors on Wednesday.

In the past two months China has tried hard to woo countries in both East and West Europe in an apparent attempt to forge an independent foreign policy.

Officials are also worried by what they see as a lagging rate of foreign investment in China, according to diplomats and businessmen in Peking.

Mr Li put three propositions to M Delors: Western Europe should import more Chinese goods; its industrial countries should provide loans to China on favourable terms; and its industrialists should set up enterprises in China that could be run independently or jointly.

China would provide more favourable conditions for joint-venture companies and guarantee a "reasonable profit" for foreign investors.

Peking is also concerned to establish independent diplomatic, commercial and Communist Party ties with Warsaw Pact countries, the Foreign Ministry indicated.

A spokesman, Mr Yu Zhizhong, said on Wednesday: "We are very happy that in recent years political, economic and trade relations between China and Eastern Europe have developed rapidly. On our part there exist no differences between China and Eastern Europe."

Mr Yu's statement came just a few days after Frau Margot Honecker, wife of the East German leader, met Mr Hu Yaobang, the Chinese Communist Party's Secretary-General, in Peking.

Earlier, the Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Qian Qichen, had told foreign journalists that Sino-Soviet relations had reached a standstill.

A delegation headed by Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minister, left on Tuesday for a nine-day tour of Romania, Yugoslavia, Greece, Spain, Turkey and Tunis.

Cuba may accept unwanted exiles

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The United States and Cuba are to reopen talks on returning 2,700 criminals and mental patients to Havana from prisons and medical facilities in Florida.

The so-called "excludables" are the unwelcome elements of 125,000 Cubans who arrived in the US in the Mariel boatlift in 1980, most of whom have integrated into American life.

An agreement for their return was suspended by President Castro, the Cuban leader, after the US began broadcasts to Cuba by Radio Martí, a

propaganda station run by the Voice of America. The State Department confirmed yesterday that talks to reactivate the agreement would begin in Mexico City next week.

Cuba reportedly decided it was in its interests to revive the accord to improve relations with Washington, and also with the population in Cuba who resented the cut-off in travel between the two countries since the agreement was suspended.

Under the accord the Cubans were to take 100 to 150 "excludables" a month.

Egypt rethinks Suez ban on nuclear ships

From A Correspondent, Cairo

Egypt is studying safety procedures to allow nuclear-powered ships to use the Suez Canal, President Mubarak said yesterday.

The announcement, in an interview with Al-Ahram newspaper, appeared to be in response to criticism from Washington that Egypt had refused to allow the nuclear carrier Enterprise to use the canal on its way back to the Indian Ocean.

After April's US air raids on

Libya, Mr Mubarak approved an American request for the Enterprise to sail through the canal into the Mediterranean, against the advice of the Suez Canal Authority.

However, the Pentagon announced this week that the ship and two escort vessels would be returning to the Indian Ocean via the Cape because of "Egyptian indecision" over a request to use the canal a second time.

The Japanese elections

Spell of the kingmaker still holds its magic

From David Watts, Nagasaki

There are none of his posters on the streets, but no one needs reminding that Mr Kakuei Tanaka is running again in the general election, despite a stroke that has left him barely able to speak.

And no one doubts that he will be returned to the Diet once again, probably topping the poll on July 6 by a comfortable margin — 39 years after he entered politics.

But the feeling that a political era is coming to an end is palpable in all electoral districts except Mr Tanaka's own, centred on Nagasaki.

There will not be the record 220,761 voters that turned out for him in 1983, shortly after a conviction — now under appeal — for accepting 500 million yen (\$2 million) from the Lockheed corporation to help them sell Tristars to a Japanese airline. But the Tanaka phenomenon has not died away completely just because the son of the movement is confined to his home in Tokyo.

The "kingmaker", aged 68, arguably the most powerful postwar Japanese politician, has not set foot in Niigata prefecture since his stroke in February 1985, but the Socialist Party, the only one putting up a serious challenge to Mr Tanaka, now running as an independent, will be more than happy if it can hold on to the four seats it won in the Lower House polls of 1983.

Even with a discredited former boss of the Liberal Democrats as its main opponent, the Socialists do not expect to make headway, such is the power of the ruling party.

The prefecture, on the Sea of Japan coast, is not called the backside of Japan for nothing. It was underdeveloped through an inhospitable climate and its distance from the centre of political power.

Mr Tanaka changed not only the political map of Niigata but that of Japan. Bullet trains speed visitors from Tokyo in two hours, an expressway also links it with the capital, both courtesy of Mr Tanaka, whose visionary development plans for the archipelago would have relieved some of the population pressure on Tokyo by making places like Niigata more accessible for both living and businesses. He attracted vast

political funds and dispensed them in equal volume. To many, Mr Tanaka is little less than a god. Mr Kazuichi Kobayashi has a shrine dedicated to the former Prime Minister outside his house, where he prays twice a day. From the Kobayashi household, on Mr Tanaka's behalf, is run the kind of support group crucial for any Japanese politician.

"We're hoping to match the record level of the last election," said Mr Kobayashi, a squat, pugnacious man of 66, "but it might drop a little. People know what he has in mind and that he wants to finish what he wants to do."

The Socialist Party is less charitable about an incapacitated politician running for office: "It's an insult to the voters." But ask them how



Mr Tanaka: front runner without campaigning

they will counteract the Liberal Democrats' close linkage with business, with the attendant ability to bring in jobs, and local campaign officials scratch their heads and say: "It's difficult."

The Socialists have little in the way of a policy in Nagasaki, except criticizing the ruling party. Local voters are aware of this deficiency: "No matter how much they shout, they can't build a bridge," a voter in Niigata said. The Liberal Democrats can: one of Mr Tanaka's bridge projects is well under way.

But there is no denying the beginning of the end: Niigata prefecture lost two seats in a recent redistribution to redress the voter imbalance between rural and urban areas. The loss is something that Mr Tanaka would never have allowed, had he been active.

Catalan bank trial misfires

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain's Director of Public Prosecutions, Señor Luis Barba, has had to come to the assistance of two young members of his Barcelona staff who have decided to seek the trial on embezzlement charges of Señor Jordi Pujol, the Chief Minister of Catalonia, together with 17 former senior executives of the Banca Catalana.

Legal investigations into the affairs of the bank, which had to be rescued from collapse by the Spanish state in 1982, have dragged on for more than two years amid widespread expressions of sympathy for the Chief Minister as an alleged victim of the Socialist Government in Madrid.

Amid the negative reactions, the decision to go for prosecution has provoked Señor Oscar Alzaga, a Christian Democrat opposition leader, into directly accusing the Socialists yesterday of a "deep-laid political scheme to send the Chief Minister to jail."

If the case comes to trial, and this has still to be decided by Barcelona's highest court, it would be the first involving the Chief Minister of any autonomous region since Spain's devolution process began.

Señor Pujol, aged 55, who leads a centre-right nationalist government and whose party increased its representation by 50 per cent in the Madrid Parliament in last month's general election, will have to consider stepping down, at least temporarily, if the court decides he must stand trial.

Señor Barba, taking full personal responsibility for the prosecution moves, admitted, however, that he had delayed the announcement so that it should not coincide with last month's general election.

One of the Chief Minister's fellow accused has publicly attacked the two young magistrates as "anti-Catalans and Communists who are seeking to destroy the Chief Minister."

Critics of the Socialists contrast the severity shown towards those responsible for the collapse of the Catalan bank with the marked lack of proceedings against officials linked to other Spanish banks — numbering about 50 — which also got into difficulties at the end of the Franco boom years.

The crash, which came less than eight months after a similar Ariane crash, threw the West's satellite launch capability into disarray, following the grounding of the US shuttle programme.

It recommended that the ignition system on the third-stage motor should be made more powerful and thoroughly tested before any further launch attempt was made.

While confirming that a problem with the ignition of the third-stage engines caused the crash, the commission said no fault had been found in the engine's

Ariane inquiry fails to pinpoint crash cause

Paris (Reuters) — The independent commission investigating the May 30 crash of a European Ariane 2 rocket with a £30 million telecommunications satellite on board has failed to pinpoint the precise cause of the accident. Arianespace said.

While confirming that a problem with the ignition of the third-stage engines caused the crash, the commission said no fault had been found in the engine's

Jakarta slows down drive for resettlement

Jakarta (Reuters) — Indonesia said yesterday it was slowing down its controversial drive to resettle millions of people from overcrowded Java and Bali on other islands because of budget cuts.

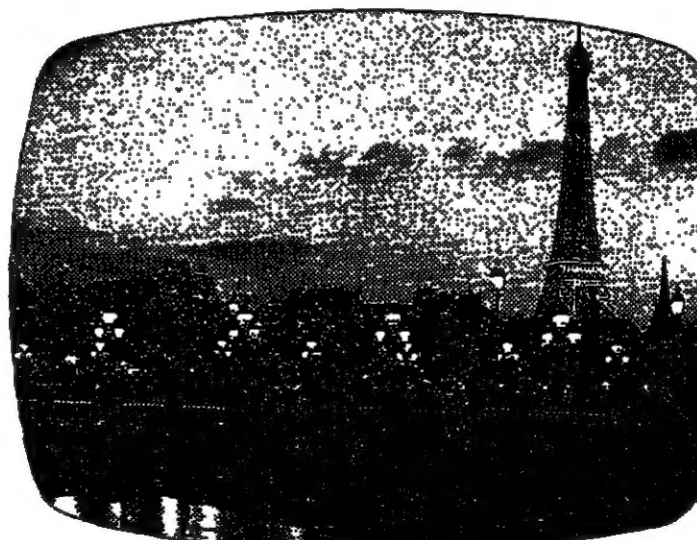
Indonesian plans to resettle 750,000 families on territories including Kalimantan (Borneo) have been branded by Western human rights and ecology groups as the "biggest colonization programme in



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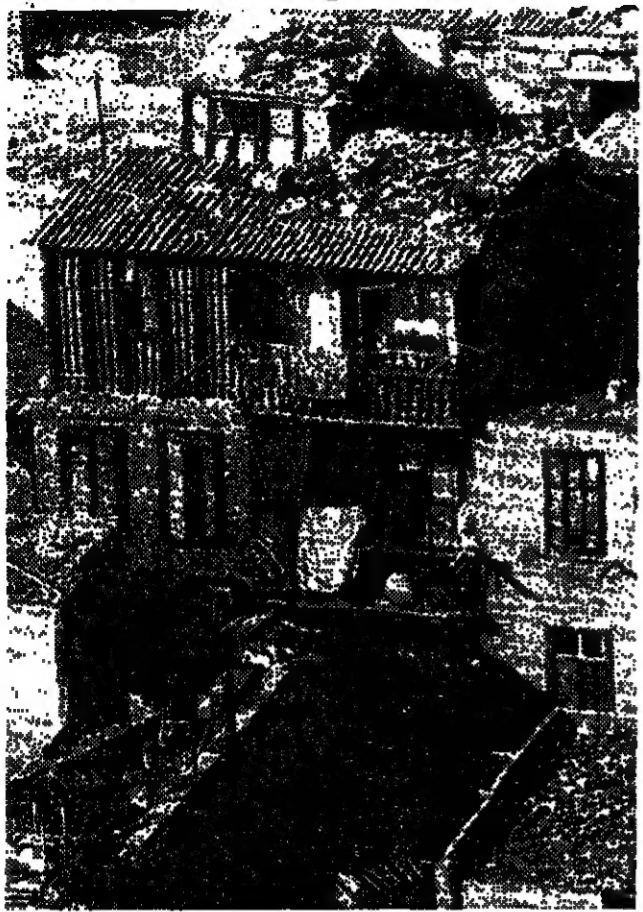
SPECTRUM

Rise of the insatiable mega-city

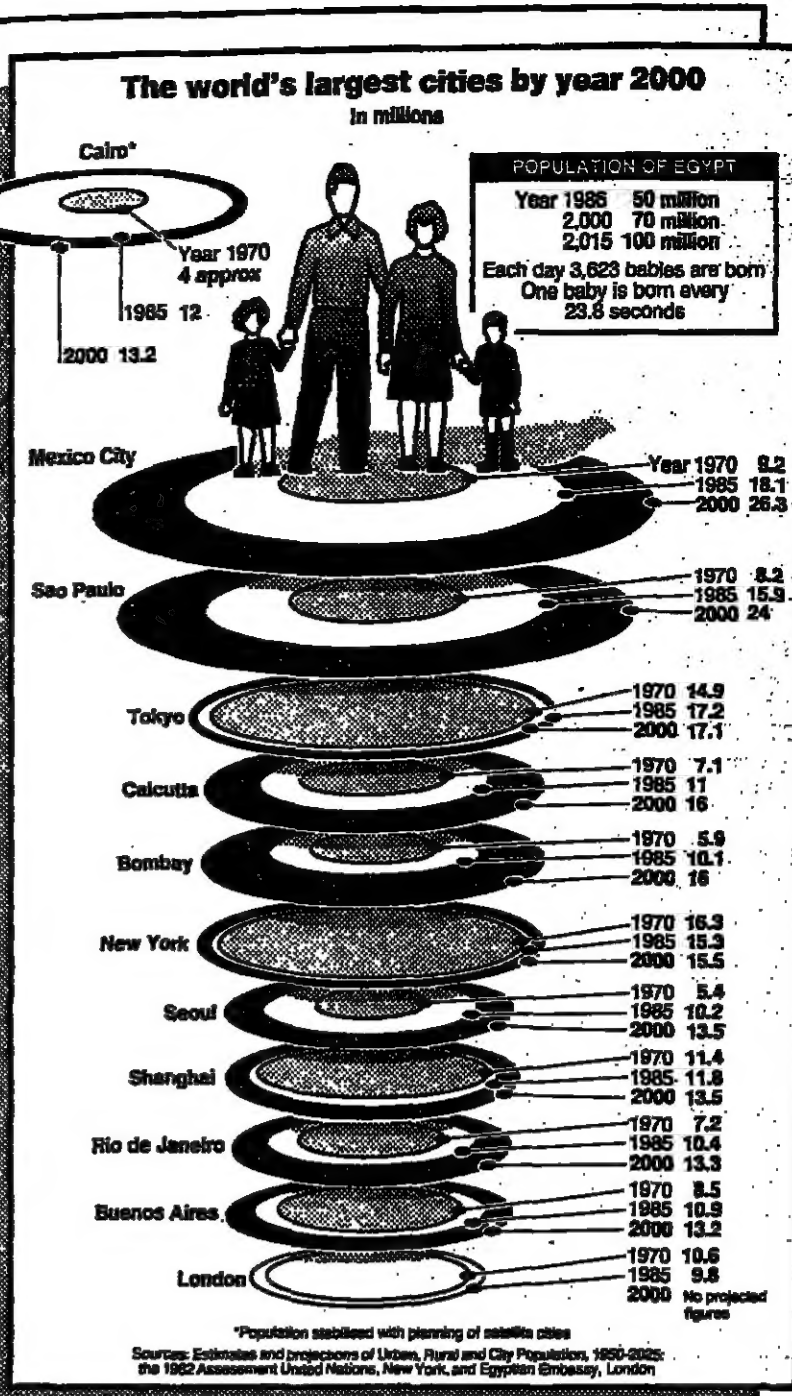
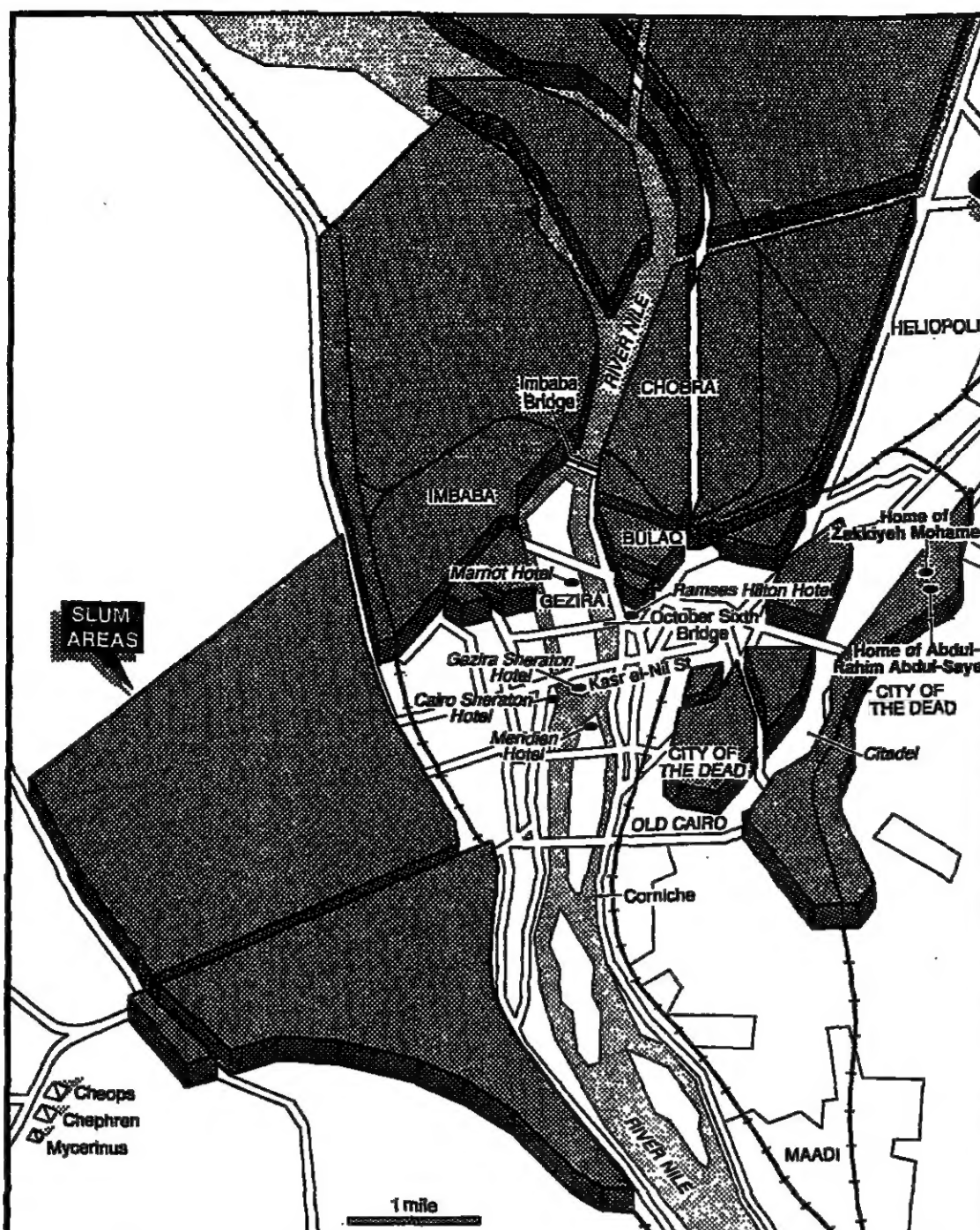
Graphic: David Hart/Photograph: Robert Fisk



New York and London used to vie for the title of the world's largest city. Not any more. They now look up to a new first division of Mexico City, already housing 18 million people; Sao Paulo, likely to have 24 million inhabitants by the end of the century, and Tokyo, 17.1 million. And by then Calcutta, Bombay and Cairo will have joined the mega-cities with their critical problems of housing, services and jobs. As people abandon rural poverty for the cities, governments face the impossible job of feeding their metropolitan populations. The insatiable mega-city will swallow millions of acres of agricultural land. In Egypt, the equivalent of the land fertilized by the Aswan Dam has now been lost to the urban growth of Cairo.



Modern Cairo: hovels on top of hovels on top of tenements



Abdul-Rahim Abdul-Sayeh lives with 25 dead men and 17 dead women. He says this with a sort of affirmative nod, as if daring us to disagree. He sells soft drinks from a battered ice-tub outside the flaking walls of an Ottoman mausoleum. He has lived in the cemetery all his life.

Behind him, in street after sweltering street, between graves and mosques of mourning and beside sarcophagi of white marble, live the people of the City of the Dead — three million of them, if conservative estimates are to be believed — a whole community, perhaps a fifth of Cairo's entire population, who have sought sanctuary from homelessness by cohabiting with the dead.

They eat in the little rooms reserved for prayer and sit in the cool of the evening below tablets which record the passing of Cairo's former, but infinitely wealthier, inhabitants. Around the cemetery of Bab el Nasr, there are three primary schools for the children of the City of the Dead.

In the hot afternoons, when even the dusk acquires a distinct, fetid smell, they can be found on the doorsteps. Some of the men work as drivers or soldiers or garbage collectors. A whole community specializes in the recycling of rubbish, brought to its shanty town on the railway tracks below the Mokkattam hills by 10-year-old scavengers, who cart their broken metal, old wheels and offal up from the muck of the city centre in wagons.

"Yes, you can come in", Zakkiyeh Mohamed says with domestic politeness, and she pulls aside a tattered curtain to lead us into her little tomb. It is not her tomb, of course. The grave in the back garden is clearly marked "General Abdul Rahmeh Belk Fahmi. Died 1928." It is a fancy affair, with an inscription in classical Arabic and a military coat of arms.

"We live here. What else can we do?" she asks. "My neighbours and I — we came from Beni Suef 40 years ago. We have nowhere else to live. We are better off than those who live in the centre of the city."

Is she? Sultan Ahmed

CROWDED CAIRO

You cannot find a map of all Cairo these days. The city is simply growing too fast for the cartographers. Even the modern maps show fields where there are now tenements, canals which have long ago turned into open sewers, cemeteries which now contain more living inhabitants than dead.

At Giza, new housing now runs almost up to the plateau of the Great Pyramids. In many inner city slums, the poor often do not know their exact address. The old centre of Cairo is surrounded by a

thick belt of poverty. The tenements of Imbaba on the west bank of the Nile eventually face the square miles of misery in Chobra and Bulak and the big rail yards behind Ramses Street station. To the east lies the City of the Dead, the acres of Mameluke tombs in which, so recent estimates suggest, there live more than three million of Cairo's poor.

The few oases left in this desert are confined to the rich or to the foreign residents of the city that once called itself "Mother of the Earth".

Mabrouk used to be a gravedigger in the cemetery. "We sleep with the dead", he says. "There is no fear. But the government does nothing for us." He is an old, old man — "I am 75 or 80, I think", he says — and he falls half asleep as he talks, almost one with those who lie beneath the floor of his house. From the crumbling mosque outside, Sultan Ahmed's funeral home, you can just make out the smog above Chobra and Bulak. It

takes three quarters of an hour to negotiate the traffic jams down to the Nile, through streets of dilapidated tenements. A boy of perhaps eight whips two donkeys hauling a wooden cart of trash up to the Mokkattam hills. I try to take a photograph of him and a policeman runs up. "Go away — you are not allowed to do this", he screams. "Go and take pictures of the pyramids. You have other things to do."

Below the broken Turkish aqueduct a fruit market is wedged between piles of garbage. "No pictures", an urchin shrieks when he catches sight of my camera. In an alleyway of hovels, each built atop the other, the shattered balconies draped with old washing, a man cries out: "Why do you look at us? Who are you? Are you a spy? There can be no dignity amid this squalor."

Chobra stretches for miles up across the rail tracks and over the groaning iron bridge across the Nile, where old men sleep beside the fuming buses, where the dust settles on your perspiration until you find your body enveloped in a kind of grey, greasy film. But the worst is at Bulak. Bulak is not its real name. Years ago, the French residents of Cairo built their gracious mansions here, on the very edge of the Nile. They called the place "Beau Lac" and the breeze of the river cooled their spacious rooms at night.

But the Nile slunk away westwards, leaving only a swamp for the poor to live in around the abandoned mansions. The houses were replaced by cheap tenements and the poorest of the poor

built homes on top of the tenements. Their children built shacks on top of the homes on top of the tenements. Then their children, in turn, built hovels on top of the shacks on top of the homes on top of the tenements.

Bulak expanded upwards as well as sideways, a contusion behind the new corniche where tourists in the Ramses Hilton Hotel have no conception of the endurance that goes on a few yards from their air-conditioned rooms. All bedrooms face west, towards the Nile and the fertile island of Gezira. Sometimes, across Cairo, the tenements simply collapse under the weight, burying their occupants in ancient life shafts, stone and muck. The Egyptian papers routinely call these events "tragedies", reporting them like some natural phenomenon, an earthquake or an act of God.

The statistics are as awesome as the slums. A national population of 51 million, a new baby every 2.4 seconds, a city that may have at least 14

million people living in it, clinging to the wily river and its waterways; more than 99 per cent of the population of Egypt lives in only 4 per cent of the total area of the country, living off the fertility of the Nile, yet daily cutting into its clay to make bricks for houses for more people who need more food.

Now the World Bank and International Monetary Fund want to call in their loans; they want President Mubarak to withdraw subsidies on basic foodstuffs. Foreign capital is drying up in Egypt as surely as — does Mubarak realize this? — the patience of Cairo's poor.

"Not long ago, I went around the city and saw something I had never seen before." The speaker is Mohamed Heikal, the Egyptian writer and journalist whose expansive, eloquent assessments are perhaps too often sought out by foreign journalists. But he is not expansive now. He has been doing a little street reporting of his own, trying to find out why the Egyptian security police rioted earlier this year.

"I found something

extraordinary", he says. "I came across a whole series of cancerous new communities around the city. 200 communities that no one has registered, in places that weren't even on the map. How many people live in Cairo now? How many will live here in the year 2000? Twenty-three million? Twenty-five million?"

"There will be a thousand of these cancerous, unknown communities then, surrounding and preying on the jungle of the old city. For all God knows, the rest of Cairo will collapse into rubble..."

Cairo, of course, will not disappear from the map, even if it redefines our notion of a "city". It may become a place from which people ultimately flee. Yet in Egypt there is nowhere for them to go.

An American aid official put it grimly enough a couple of months ago: "You think things can't get worse, but they can. And in the end, there will be some kind of upheaval. Maybe the army will hold things for a while. Maybe religion will sustain the people. But it's going to get worse..."

Robert Fisk

It's a cracking tale, but anyone taking the Bible literally needs his head examined



Brian Redhead: embarking on a Biblical Odyssey

Brian Redhead, the soothing morning voice of Radio 4's *Today* programme, has just read the Bible from end to end, Genesis to Revelation, in a little over four months, and has decided that its great unsung hero is Job.

"Job is one hell of a bloke", Redhead says with enthusiastic imagery rarely heard from the more conservative pulpits. "He really has his fist up all the time. Bobby Robson should have fielded him against Maradona in Mexico."

Redhead's marathon journey through the small print, for which, as a former northern editor of *The Guardian*, he trained on 250,000 words' worth of galley proofs every week, was an exercise in journalism rather than religious faith. Tomorrow on Radio 4 he begins a 13-part series on the world's enduring best-seller, interviewing Christian, Jewish and Islamic scholars in an effort to explain how and why it came to be written, and to put it in some kind of historical context.

Four years ago his 18-year-old son, William, died in a car crash at Arns in

After four months and almost a hundred scholarly interviews, Brian Redhead's new radio series, starting tomorrow, is an impartial look at the Bible

north-east France, and Redhead has since been a regular attendee and lay reader at his local parish church in Rainow, near Macclesfield. Embarking on a Biblical Odyssey, however, is not, he insists, any kind of search for personal comfort or faith.

"I regard myself as moderately well educated, but I realized how ignorant I was about the well-known stories of the Bible when we were preparing readings for the church. Then I was asked to help out with an amateur production of Verdi's *Nabucco*. When I read the libretto I thought: 'This story is rubbish; it can't be right'."

"My theory was that everybody at some stage says: 'One day I shall read the Bible', and they rarely do. Up to the

19th century people discussed the Bible regularly as part of everyday talk. Now we just discuss politics. I discovered that the Pentateuch is a distillation of several ancient texts, which appears to explain why there are two rival accounts of the Creation in Genesis: God creating the Earth in Chapter 1, and the story of the Garden of Eden.

He also elicits from a Jewish academic that the serpent in the Garden is a castration symbol, which he and doubtless many of his listeners had not thought about before.

Redhead has remained entirely immune to any kind of fundamentalist approach to the text: "Anyone who takes the Bible literally needs his head examined. It's not a map of the journey; it's the journey itself."

In his first programme, he asks such basic journalist's questions as why the Bible has survived, and elicits the reply from an eminent Glasgow theologian that it is the only historical document of the ancient world that does not speak of a struggle between rival gods, but speaks of a single deity creating order out of chaos.

He discovers that the Pentateuch is a distillation of several ancient texts, which appears to explain why there are two rival accounts of the Creation in Genesis: God creating the Earth in Chapter 1, and the story of the Garden of Eden.

He also elicits from a Jewish academic that the serpent in the Garden is a castration symbol, which he and doubtless many of his listeners had not thought about before.

"But it is a cracking good tale. As the *News Of The World* used to claim: 'All human life is there.' Genesis is the book that gives the game away, like a whodunit telling you the victim and the murderer in the first chapter. You learn at the beginning that God is not going to desert man."

To those who would plead that the Bible should not be treated journalistically, or as a mere historical tract, Redhead says: "You need both faith and understanding, and I don't think you can have the former without the latter."

Nevertheless, Redhead conveys a great enthusiasm for the Bible as a darned good read, having consumed its every word while commuting on the train between Broadcasting House and his Macclesfield home: "It's like an amazing detective story. You occasionally get a bit bored with all the begetting, but it's not half as boring as Jeffrey Archer."

Alan Hamilton

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THE TIMES SATURDAY

From diamond to square

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NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 993

ACROSS

1 Madhouse (6)
5 Drowsy (6)
8 Poetic Tale (3)
9 Private Lives playwright (6)
10 Take in (6)
11 Carriage houses (4)
12 Oddments (8)
14 Delicate (6)
17 Wispy (6)
19 Small car (8)
22 Rage (4)
24 In place (2, 4)
25 Live in (6)
26 Underhand (3)
27 Drastic (6)
28 Undertone (6)

DOWN

2 Call up (5)
3 Link (7)
4 Shyness (7)
5 Passenger chair (5)
6 Keen (5)
7 Back gate (7)
13 Inaccuracy (1, 1, 1)
15 Graduates (7)
16 Old boat (3)
17 Put on paper (3, 4)
18 Sunnybrook farm heroine (7)
20 Ancestral (5)
21 Immature ovum (5)
23 Subject (5)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 992

ACROSS: 8 Hypochondria; 9 Ere 10 Dissenter 11 Dream 13 Refresh 16 Deprave 19 Label 22 Somnolent 24 Lot 25 Accomplishments

DOWN: 1 Shield 2 Apiece 3 Academia 4 Dossier 5 Edge 6 Life 7 Scorch 12 Rise 14 Full-time 15 She 16 Dismissal 17 Pummice 18 Exude 20 Belong 21 Latest 23 Opus

Freedom from the

MEDICAL BRIEFING SPECIAL

DRUGS

I was a heroin addict for more than a decade. In those years I thought there was hope — that I was doomed to die. But recovery from the disease of drug addiction is possible. As for my misery and pain, I found a better way to live. This is the story of how I found drugs, how they ground me down and how I began to recover.

An only child born into a loving family, successful at school, I had a good life, but somehow failed to come to terms with the world's demands. Fantasy and isolation were my way of coping with growing up and learning the compromises of life, its sadnesses and triumphs.

When I was 16, an older friend offered me a shot of heroin. When I stuck out my forearm for the injection I expected to flinch from the pain of the needle; instead, pleasure flooded through me. And there was something else: for the next few hours I felt a freedom from all my fears, imaginings and worries. Life seemed a fair challenge. I could handle things. I was also groggy and sick, but the alarm and self-consciousness that had always been with me had vanished. I wanted to feel like that forever.

I started trying other drugs — amphetamines, sleeping pills and tranquilizers, alcohol, cocaine, each with its own "high" and each in some way freeing me from my problems. Drugs not only gave me a universe free of difficulty, they also provided an identity, something to get my teeth into.

I took drugs through the rest of my schooldays and my time at university but I kept my habit from my teachers and parents because the drugs I took were illegal, because I didn't think the people around me could help me or understand, but mainly because I didn't want to stop.

Most of my friends also took drugs. The stories vary, but for an addict, the ends are always numbingly similar: death, illness, often crime as a way to pay for the drugs. Addiction creeps up on you. What I thought was a choice I'd made, a way of living, turned into a condition that weakened me so much that my decisions about study, jobs, people, became irrational. With my grasp on reality so frayed, I was in some sense of the word actually mad.

My life's backdrop was simply one thing — one obsession: drugs, how to buy them, how much I had, where they were hidden in my room. I would take them constantly, spending all the money I could find, pumping them into my body, existing purely for the flash of pleasure that would come from each shot. This way of living went on for years.

At first my career, a creative one, gave me some happiness. More important, it also gave me money. I managed to get away with taking drugs at work for some five years, controlling my intake, leaving my place of work at lunch to "score", moving from post to post before people came to know me too well. Those who did find out about my addiction viewed drugs through liberated eyes, as an acceptable lifestyle choice.

Few people thought I was suffering from a life-threatening sickness and they were too fond of me to jeopardize my career by informing on me to my superiors. I moved from country to country, and wherever I went I surrounded myself with other drug users.

Sometimes I would "clean up" for days or even a few weeks. But always there would be a void inside me and I would be drawn back to drugs. After some years my physical dependence on heroin became so great, my emotional need for it so central, I could not ever countenance the thought of "withdrawing" from the drug — it wasn't

just the pain of withdrawal, but also the fear of being "without anything".

What I see clearly now is that giving up drugs was not all I needed to do in order to recover from addiction. I was carrying with me my own confused attitude, my own depressions and self-delusions, my furious anger and resentment towards the world, my helpless dreams.

By the age of 25 I had gone to work in the United States. There I was a stranger. In my profession, where creative eccentricity is sometimes smiled upon, what really counts is results. No one enquired too closely about what I did in my own time. By this stage I had already been in hospital twice with hepatitis, caused by sharing needles with other infected drug users. I had gone down with the blood disease of septicemia. I was thin as a rake and pale as a ghost.

But the endurance I got from heroin helped me to work obsessively and work made me feel I was fulfilling myself in some way, even if the drugs affected the quality of it. I assumed other people didn't know about the drugs, and I saw all the ironies in my situation; I thought they were fools and I could get away with anything. In fact, many people could see what was happening and either refused to believe it or couldn't work out what to do.

Outwardly I still had success. I had designed my life so I could find my drugs easily. I was living in a glamorous way. Inwardly, the lighting in the tunnel was getting fainter. I needed more drugs to

'To live without drugs is really to become human again — vulnerable, emotional, happy and sad'

keep going. By the last year of my drug-taking, I had given up all drugs but heroin. But heroin was hardly working any more and my dosage grew higher. Sometimes, to buy drugs, I scoured the streets for hours looking for dealers. My days were a ritual of visits to the bank, trips downtown to "score", a wild release as soon as the drugs were nesting in my pocket, and a few seconds of pleasure swamped in the "rush" of the drugs.

I don't know how I escaped the police. I ran their gauntlet daily. I saw the drug scene as it is everywhere — full of guns, violence, profit and rip-offs. I was stealing from my family and colleagues, taking on huge debts, making pitiful efforts to give up, succumbing again. I even robbed commuters on the subway train.

Even as I did I wondered why I, a talented young man who once had everything to live for, was harming other people to buy the drugs that were destroying me. My life was filling up quickly with personal disasters that had a strange effect — as they stripped me of hope, they made me glad; they left a sense that something had to give.

This nightmare reached its peak when I was found out by my employers. There was the crushing shame of being confronted by people to whom I felt an obligation, the agony of being discov-

ered. But worst of all, was the realization that my long, unhappy affair with drugs would now end.

I found myself in a treatment centre for addiction and alcoholics. There, I was detoxified from heroin and went through a week of withdrawals. The torment I'd feared for so long came, was horrible, and went.

For the first time for years I was without drugs. As my head cleared I started taking a good look at myself, helped by other people in the treatment centre who shared my problem and could see clearly the pattern of my behaviour. The safe haven of a clinic gave me the chance to make a choice, for the first time, about the future I wanted for myself. It also gave me insight into my personality.

Gradually I began to recognize the feelings within me that had long been covered over. In group therapy sessions I began to see myself in others, and as I spoke about my emotions others could also share my own attitudes. Sharing feelings, I quickly realized, could break down the sense of isolation I had built around myself even before I started taking drugs. My physical condition improved. I saw doctors, counsellors, a psychiatrist.

The eight weeks I spent in treatment seem to me now rather like a crash course in how to live — the trick is to go out in the real world and put those lessons to work. Recovery is helped, in the early days, by friends or family who understand that addiction is a disease, that its ravages need time to be remedied, and that to live without drugs is really a process to become human — becoming vulnerable, emotional, happy and sad.

Slowly it dawned on me that hundreds of other addicts had escaped from their addictions in that hospital. Thousands of others had "got clean" even without treatment (and now lead drug-free lives by a simple means of therapy — the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous). I started to see that recovery from addiction was possible. Treatment and NA meetings helped me to deal with my feelings about the way I lived before, to find out how other addicts coped with a drug-free life and to realize that I am not bad, nor even doomed.

Therapy for addiction is both simple and far-reaching. It calls for bravery, not brilliance. The key for me is to stay away from all drugs. It sounds simple, but for an addict, drugs are the most natural means in the world for coping with problems, for making one feel better.

Drugs rob the addict not only of money but also of more precious things — a sense of place in the world, love for others, all those rhythms and sounds of living that provide the idea of purpose in recovery. The addict taking his first, or second, or twentieth drug doesn't choose his fate. Those who recover from addiction can lead lives informed and brightened by the memory of its darkness. I hope experience someone to find recovery. Finally, this piece is unsigned not because I don't want to say who I am, but because my name doesn't matter and because the NA fellowship, which is the basis of recovery for me, is protected by my anonymity.

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needle

As the Ministry of Defence joins the fight against drug abuse, scientists are finding new ways to help addicts.

Thomson Prentice investigates

Drug abuse is reaching epidemic proportions in Britain. The Government has acknowledged that heroin, amphetamines, cocaine and other drugs have spread their influence to almost every part of the country. People in all sections of society, from debutantes to adolescents, are affected — some fatally.

Although the development of services to treat addicts must remain a priority according to health ministers, many specialists believe that even the growing number of clinics and agencies, both within the NHS and independently run, are inadequate to deal with the scale of the problem.

According to the latest Home Office figures, there were 5,869 addicts known to be receiving drugs in Britain at the end of 1984. But agency workers and specialists estimate the real figure to be anything from five to ten times higher. Four million people are said by some research workers to have tried drugs of one kind or another and more than 100,000 are believed to be dependent on tranquillizers.

For drug abusers and their families, the biggest problem is kicking the habit. How can families help and what are the latest forms of treatment?

Heroin, amphetamines, cocaine and tranquillizers are all highly addictive. A heroin user, for example, whether injecting, inhaling or snuffing the drug, will eventually need a dose every few hours.

"Whatever the drug in question, an addict has to make the firm decision to stop before any help will be useful", says Jennifer Bleasdale, a regional liaison officer with SCODA (Standing Conference on Drug Abuse), a national co-ordinating body for voluntary drug agencies and organizations.

Since the 1960s, the standard type of medical detoxification for heroin addicts has been methadone, a synthetic heroin substitute which is itself highly addictive.

The rationale behind the prescribing of methadone is that it prevents addicts from turning to the black market, offers an element of medical supervision and alleviates withdrawal symptoms — although some specialists criticize the use of this drug, arguing that it is merely substituting one form of addiction for another.

A sympathetic family doctor will prescribe methadone in a liquid form, to be taken over three weeks, perhaps longer, on a gradually reducing dosage. More serious cases are usually referred to hospital for treatment lasting at least two weeks. Many heroin addicts have to go on methadone maintenance for a long time — perhaps years.

Other drugs are being used

as substitutes and the latest, now undergoing trials in Britain, is naltrexone, which is said to neutralize an addict's "fix". Naltrexone is thought to be non-addictive and has impressed clinicians in the United States.

Drug-free treatment is offered to heroin and other addicts either at clinics or as out-patients, and at centres which offer combinations of counselling and psychotherapy. Paramedical treatments include acupuncture, which may stimulate the brain to produce endorphins, while hypnosis can be used to deliver aversion therapy.

Like heroin addicts, cocaine users are prone to psychological and physical dependency. Cocaine is a highly addictive, short-acting stimulant that produces euphoria and excitement but punishes with profound depression.

Many drug agency workers believe that the abuse of amphetamines, known as "speed", is the most serious of Britain's addiction problems. The stimulants are swallowed, snorted or injected to produce euphoria, alertness and extra energy — followed by depression, insomnia and nervousness and leading often to the use of tranquillizers or alcohol as "downers". This, in turn, provokes a return to amphetamines as "uppers". Withdrawal can cause suicidal depression.

Counselling and psychotherapy may be needed to help some individuals and two new books, written for addicts and their families, contain useful information on these and other drugs: *How To Get Off Drugs*, by Ira Mowbray and Alan Weitz, the editors of *Rolling Stone*, is published in a British version by Penguin, at £3.95; and *Coming Off Drugs*, by James and Joyce Dixter, with Celia Haddon, is published on July 10 by Papermac, a division of Macmillan, at £2.95.

Both give addresses of national and local organizations. These include: SCODA: 1-4 Hatton Place, Hatton Garden, London EC1, 01-430 2341. Narcotics Anonymous: PO Box 246, c/o 47 Millman Street, London SW10, 01-351 6794 and 01-351 6066.

'An addict must firmly decide to stop before help will be useful'



St Hugh's makes room for men

It is ironic that St Hugh's College, Oxford, a pioneer of education for women and one of three remaining female colleges at the university, should be celebrating its centenary at the same time as it prepares to admit male undergraduates. It is perhaps doubly ironic that this move should come while complaints are being voiced about women's career prospects at Oxbridge.

But as they attend the anniversary Gaudy dinner to-night and the garden party tomorrow St Hugh's graduates will either be putting a brave face on these tumultuous upheavals or simply feel-

In 1988, a century-old Oxford college will admit men for the first time.

Lacy Hodges reports

ing, like some of the dons to whom I spoke, that the battle for women's education has largely been won.

St Hugh's has not been dull. A book soon to be published to coincide with the centenary tells of the extraordinary row which nearly destroyed the college in 1924. A

clash of two powerful personalities ended with the death of the principal, the resignation of five tutors and a boycott of St Hugh's undergraduates by the rest of the university.

The college survived it all and now occupies a massively expanded site off the Banbury Road, a far cry from the rented house in Northam Road where four women students gathered to form the college in 1886. After all this, why has it decided to go co-educational?

The main reason for the decision appears to be a desire to improve the standard of applicants, and therefore the standard of undergraduate endeavour. Last year St Hugh's was placed 26th out of 28 in the Norrington league table of degree results, the year before it was bottom.

Most girls do not choose to go to a single sex college. Last year 177 women put St Hugh's as their first choice — the lowest number of applicants per place for any Oxford college. As Dr Mary Lunn, a maths don at the college, puts it: "The age of protection is over. Most of the girls do not want to go to an all-female college. They want to prove they can do it in straight competition."

The argument about admitting men has raged been raging for years and was finally concluded last December. (Somerville and St Hilda's are still holding out). Miss Rachel Trickett, who has five more years as principal of St Hugh's, is outspoken in her opposition to admitting male undergraduates: "Such evidence as we have suggests that, although women like being in mixed colleges, they don't like being in a minority because they tend to fall into



Broken barriers: male and female staff eat at St Hugh's High Table

second place. I am not suggesting men do it to them, they do it to themselves. "A mixed society living in the same building is a most unnatural institution. You are never going to live with a large crowd of members of the opposite sex in your life again, except in a hotel."

Sushma Sharma, a second-year mathematics undergraduate from a Punjabi family living in Nottingham, was probably speaking for many when she said she was resigned to the college going co-ed but regretted it because women students needed the places to keep up their numbers at Oxford.

There have been male dons at St Hugh's since 1978 and their arrival seems to have been accepted with equanimity. There are now 16 male fellows and 19 women, with only six women and all 16 men appointed since 1977. One of them, Dr John Robertson, a tutor in modern history, is forthright in his advocacy of co-education. "It will open the college up again, give it a better pool to draw on and improve the intellectual life", he declares. All fellows agreed that the number of women dons at Oxford and

Cambridge was disappointingly low. Since 1966, numbers have remained static. As Dr Isabel Rivers, an English tutor, puts it: "If you have open competition, it is the nature of things that a man is more likely to be appointed, because more men apply."

"Fewer women go on to do higher degrees and in a college like this one, where you have a totally open appointments system, the college will take the best person, man or woman."

This trend is likely to lead to fewer women dons and give female undergraduates fewer "role models" to emulate. The vicious circle could continue.

But, with good fortune and some positive action, it will not. Dr Robertson, who is also head of the graduate school, launched a major drive to build it up, through a programme of scholarships, from its present 50 members to 80 or 100. "These are the women who are going to come through wanting, and in some cases obtaining, university positions", he says.

"St Hugh's: One Hundred Years of Women's Education in Oxford" (to be published on July 24 by Macmillan, £17.50)

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THE TIMES DIARY

Sanctions strain

The House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee, which has been considering Britain's involvement in the South African crisis, has suddenly speeded up its work and is to come up with an interim report later this month. The reason for this haste is that the committee hopes its recommendations will have an impact on the seven-nation Commonwealth summit, to be held in London in the first week of August. At that meeting, Mrs Thatcher will be under severe pressure to impose sanctions against South Africa. I understand that two or possibly three of the seven Tories on the committee will be sorely tempted to join the four Labour members in a recommendation favouring sanctions. A secret session of the committee yesterday with a senior American diplomat, Robert Frazee, at which he expressed little but pessimism about Pretoria's readiness to talk to overseas leaders, has added to their qualms on the Thatcher line.

Crime wavering

Victims of violent crimes who have been waiting interminably for the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board to decide what they should be paid had better make a virtue of patience. The 20 extra staff whose appointment Home Office inspectors recommended last year to handle the backlog of claims has been reduced to 13. The rate of violent crime is so high in Britain these days that if all the claims were met the government's budget would be grossly exceeded.

Late departure

General Sir Michael Gow, former head of the Royal College of Defence Studies, hung up his epaulettes six weeks late. A few days before he was due to retire, he slipped while running for a train at Waterloo station and broke his ankle. Since regulations forbid an officer to retire while in hospital, he was obliged to continue drawing full pay until the injury healed. Some compensation, perhaps, for being the last general to fall at Waterloo.

● Ecclesiastical thrift: An Anglican clergyman removed his dog collar in the heat to reveal that it was nothing more than a recycled slice from a plastic detergent bottle. When challenged, he confessed at once.

Gross

Here's a novel idea for Britain's judges. While awaiting trial on charges of extortion and unauthorized stockpiling of arms, Arturo Durano Moreno, Mexico City's former police chief, brought a libel action against the author and publisher of a book which also accused him of complicity in drug trafficking. He won. The damages? Fifty per cent of the book's profits.

BARRY FANTONI



Marching on

Disinformation by the Tower Hamlets Health Authority. The march in support of Wendy Savage, the gynaecologist suspended from work last year, has not after all been cancelled. It will start from Mile End Hospital at 2 pm next Thursday. No end to Ms Savage's travails is yet in sight. A decision about whether she will be reinstated to her post, following a six-week inquiry earlier this year, should have been taken by the authority on the same day as the march, but this has now been postponed indefinitely.

Slow delivery

More on the matter of the highest scoring over in cricket history. A reader now tells me that in 1890, during a match in Yorkshire, an Australian touring team beat an English side with a single hit — never mind a whole over. Lyons, one of the Aussie openers, hit a ball so hard that it smashed through the window of an express train, the 11.35, bound for Sheffield. We appealed for "lost ball," which was overruled by the umpire on the grounds that its whereabouts was known. One of our players was dispatched on a later train, a slow one, only to discover at Sheffield that the station master had already sent it back by parcel post. It reached the ground at 1.30 pm the following day. The English sat in front of the pavilion while the Australians ran 1,849 and declared their innings. The analysis of the unfortunate bowler, one Mr Atwell, was: 0.1 overs, 0 maidens, 0 for 1,849.

PHS

Security plus shake-up

Alastair Hetherington, a member of the Peacock committee, on its differences over the more controversial recommendations

Some critics wrote off the Peacock report as dead even before it appeared. Far from it. Much of it may not be put into practice until after the next general election, but the report nevertheless points the way for changes.

It offers a secure basis for funding the BBC in the next ten years, while restraining BBC imperialism. It does something to shake up the duopoly of BBC and ITV by opening the way for independent producers. It recommends that many pensioners be exempt from paying the licence fee, and shows how the licence fee system could be replaced in the late 1990s by viewers paying directly for BBC television. Conservative backbenchers should be cheering, not growling, and Labour's shadow cabinet will find that, long term, it has to come back to many of the committee's proposals.

The issues are complex and the members have strong individual views, but on most they were unanimous. All approved of preparing for subscription television as the most practical alternative to the licence fee, and of the exemption of pensioners. There was general agreement against forcing advertising on to BBC television.

Although the decision on advertising may disappoint the government, it was not taken lightly. Alan Peacock and Sam Brittan — our two economists — commissioned much economic research on our behalf, as did other interested parties, the Independent Television Companies Association and the Newspaper Society among them. Researchers studied such issues as the flexibility of the television advertising market, and the effect of BBC

advertising on ITV, independent local radio and others; it concluded that as little as two minutes in the hour on BBC 1 alone could bring a drastic reduction of revenue to the ITV companies. The peak-time rates would be punctured, causing great damage to ITV finance and programme-making. Local newspapers would also lose revenue. These drawbacks dampened the free market enthusiasm.

Research on programme content was conducted by Professor Jay Blumler of Leeds University and Dr Tom Nossiter of the LSE. It is summarized in the report but will be published in full about three weeks hence. It showed clearly — confirming the committee's own impressions from travel in this country and abroad — that if BBC television were to become dependent on advertising revenue the nature of programme-making both by the BBC and ITV would inevitably change. No peak-time information programmes, apart from the news, little or no current affairs, no controversial or demanding drama, no political satire, much less diversity.

The consequences could be seen in the United States where, during the last 15 years, the three main networks have bought almost nothing from either the BBC or ITV. (Only US public service channels with minority audiences do so).

Radio was, regrettably, left to the end of the discussions, when in

my view the committee made its worst decision. With little thought as to the consequences, the committee voted 5-2 for the privatization of Radios 1 and 2. In effect the proposal — a sop to the free marketers on the committee — will prevent BBC radio from reaching mass audiences and diminish the status of radio within the BBC. Television is already too dominant; BBC radio, reduced, will be given even less consideration. In addition, advertising on privatized Radios 1 and 2 would bankrupt many independent local stations.

The committee also came close to recommending privatization for BBC local radio, but its distinctive services were recognized. BBC local radio, broadly speaking, is 70 per cent talk and 30 per cent music, while on the independent stations the proportions are reversed. Each style is acceptable to the audiences it attracts, and the further you live from London the more you are likely to appreciate both.

Apart from Radios 1 and 2, another split came over the ITV franchise system. By a 4-3 vote, the majority recommended that these should be put to competitive tender. This decision was also damaging. If applied, it would put the IBA in an impossible position. If a company with a sound financial base, but no experience of television, offers a higher rental than an established company with a strong programme record, such as Granada or Yorkshire, where

will the line be drawn? At 10 per cent higher, 15 per cent, 20 per cent or higher still? Not only that, but the successful bidder would be under such pressure to maximize profits that only mass-appeal programmes would be televised. This was confirmed by Thames, Central, Granada and Grampian which were questioned separately on the issue. The Home Secretary is prudent to defer action on this disputed recommendation.

The further proposal that future ITV contracts should be based on a "rolling review", with a system of "yellow card" and "red card" warnings, makes much more sense. If within a year of being shown the "yellow" a company does not remedy its programme defects, then the "red" will be served and the franchise readvertised a year later unless there had been a great improvement meanwhile.

Already the committee is being criticized both for going beyond its terms of reference — which we dispute — and for not going beyond them. Sex and violence are far outside our remit, so was the evident disarray in the higher ranks of the BBC. That the governors are at times inept (though their chairman led their evidence to the committee admirably), and that the BBC's board of management at times appear to have their knives into each other and into the governors as well, was not the committee's business. It is, however, something that the BBC itself must put right if it wants to survive.

The author was editor of The Guardian 1956-75 and is now research professor in media studies at Stirling University.

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Adam Ridley looks at the questions raised by the collapse of the world tin market

Will Whitehall pay its gambling debt?



Cornish tin miners: victims of a crash that the government did too little to avert

which the council faced in 1982 "would ultimately have proved too severe for the agreement to withstand", it said. Officials began to try to extract from the ITC information about its more hazardous activities some years ago. They claim that, had they succeeded, "the collapse might well have been predicted and prevented". But their efforts were reined back — why, it is not clear.

● Did the government warn the LME, banks or Cornish mines of the danger of collapse?

Trading in tin on the London Metal Exchange was dominated by dealings with the ITC — which could not operate without the LME. Some kind of warnings were made by the LME to the authorities and vice versa. But it appears that at no time did the authorities warn of any risk that member governments would allow the ITC to become bankrupt and go into default on its existing obligations to metal traders or the banks. Nor does the government seem to have thought through the actions it did call for. On its own, an LME boycott of the ITC would have brought about the council's col-

lapse, causing chaos in the tin market and inflicting vast losses all round. Yet the authorities in effect advised the LME firms involved to stop trading with it. The only sensible remedies would have been a radical reorganization or an orderly wind-down of the ITC's affairs.

The bankers and Cornish mines were given no warning, mainly because to have done so — to quote the DTI — would have "precipitated a crisis and probably the collapse of the buffer stock operation". In acting as it did, the government took a big gamble with other people's jobs and money without warning them of the dangers to which it was committing them — a gamble which failed. Was this wise stewardship of the nation's financial markets? Can the government now disown all responsibility for the consequences of what it did?

When it became aware of the danger, the government could have done much more, either alone or with other members, to change the ITC's policies. Using the procedures laid down in the Sixth International Tin Agreement (ITA-6), it could have:

- Used the consultation, complaints and disputes procedures laid down in ITA-6; and the disputes procedure in a separate legal "headquarters agreement".
- Withdrawn from the ITC.
- Proposed the early termination of ITA-6.
- Terminated the headquarters agreement and expelled the ITC from Britain.
- Removed the immunities it had conferred on the ITC.

The mere threat of such actions might have been sufficient to steer the ITC back on to a safer course, or at least to provide for an orderly wind-down of its operations. But, as far as we know, nothing of the sort was attempted. The Select Committee spent much time investigating these matters but obtained few answers from the DTI about what went on in the ITC and the government in the period before the crisis. The DTI pleaded variously the confidentiality of advice to ministers, the impropriety of discussing matters which might be the subject of legal action, the restrictions on what the Select Committee may investigate, and the limitations imposed by membership of the ITC. So the council's activities and the British government's involvement in it remain shrouded in secrecy even now, while all ITC governments seek to shelter behind professed immunity from any attempt to discover what really happened. Such reticence may have been defensible while negotiations were continuing but it is less justifiable today.

In addition to the points I have already raised, we must hope that Monday's debate will illuminate the following questions of principle:

- Having gambled with the money, investment, jobs and good name of the LME, Cornish mines and banks, what does the government now perceive its responsibility to them to be? In particular, will it help them in any legal action to recover the losses which the collapse of the ITC caused to all affected by the price of tin?
- Will the government now remove the ITC immunities?
- Given the lack of information about what happened within the ITC and Whitehall, will the government now initiate a quick, full and independent inquiry into what happened and publish the results?

When the government is requiring our financial institutions and markets to undertake major reforms to strengthen fair and open dealings and to protect investors and clients from exploitation, it is surely not unreasonable to ask it to apply the same standards to its own operations.

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Sir Adam Ridley, a director of Hambros Bank, is spokesman for a committee of creditor banks.

Maradona no: John Paul—but of course

Bogotá, Colombia, not Mexico, was from runner to stage the 1986 World Cup until President Batanur declined on the grounds that the country could not afford such extravagance. Yet enormous sums have been found — \$80 million, according to Havana Radio, though that is probably an exaggeration — on public works of doubtful long-term value and the general sprucing up of cities for the Pope's present visit.

Enrique Santos Calderon, a highly respected journalist, supported Batanur's decision not to host the World Cup, but notes that since then "Neither hospitals nor schools have been built, and children continue to starve... many people think that, having denied ourselves the chance of being a showcase for the world's best football teams, we are spending just as much on one person."

In the small town of Chiquinquirá, a place of pilgrimage for many Colombians, land worth an estimated \$6 million was bought to accommodate the multitudes who converged there yesterday for the Pope's one-hour visit. Spending on media facilities seems to

have been almost as great for the papal visit as it would have been for the World Cup, with the provision of 20 press centres, 400 telex machines, 800 telephone lines, and 500 typewriters for the 2,500 foreign journalists covering the visit.

When Santos Calderon questioned whether, in view of the cost, Batanur should have refused a visit from the Pope, priests and public were outraged. Colombia is regarded by many as South America's most deeply Roman Catholic country, with its crowds of women in black mantillas waiting in long lines for their turn in the confessional after offices and factories have closed for the day. Known as "the Republic of the Sacred Heart", Colombia is the only country, apart from Paraguay, to have a concordat with the Vatican.

Ironically, since the Colombian church remains one of the most conservative in Latin America, it was in the Colombian city of Medellín, at the 1968 Latin American bishops' conference, that liberation theology first emerged, and had history taken a different course, the Pope might

have been welcomed by a 57-year-old Cardinal or Archbishop named Camilo Torres — the model for the priest-turned-subversive in Graham Greene's *The Honorary Consul*.

A brilliant scholar and linguist, Torres came from one of Bogotá's oldest and most distinguished families, and after taking holy orders in 1954 seemed destined to go far in the church. Instead, he is today revered almost as the patron saint of liberation theology which two years before the 1968 Medellín conference he took to the ultimate extreme, dying as a revolutionary guerrilla during a skirmish with government troops.

Torres became a guerrilla after the church showed alarm and hostility towards his left-wing politics. He decided that the conditions of the urban poor would never be improved by peaceful means. While liberation theology has taken hold elsewhere in Latin America — most notably in Brazil, Peru and Central America — it has not flourished in Colombia. Nor has the legend of Torres himself. "Camilo was a myth created abroad, because in this country nothing happened," says

Geoffrey Matthews

David Watt

Heroic, but look at the odds

The only way to maintain any sense of reality in an increasingly crazy situation is by restating constantly to oneself the simple logic of the British predicament in South Africa:

● Britain has important interests in South Africa which will be harmed if we adopt a sanctions policy.

● An economic sanctions policy, if implemented, far from having the effect that is intended, will almost certainly achieve nothing except direct and indirect damage to the black population, to the "front line" states and to British interests.

● Immediate self-interest, as well as morality, points to our doing nothing to harm the South African economy, and if we were a self-sufficient superpower that would be our obvious and best response.

● Unfortunately we are not in that situation. We have broad interests which are, in total, far more important than our interests in South Africa. Our economic links with the black Commonwealth are extremely valuable, and our position on the international politico-economic stage depends more generally on our leading role in the EEC and the Commonwealth and our rapport with the other members of these organizations. Moreover, our long-term interests in South Africa itself may be put at risk if we appear to back the losing side in an imminent revolution.

● If we are ever really forced to choose between the two sets of interests, we shall have to sacrifice the immediate South African ones. Meanwhile our logical policy now, as in the past, must be to fight a rearguard action and manoeuvre for as long as possible to avoid having to make the choice.

So much is common ground between pretty well everyone except those who have persuaded themselves that economic sanctions will actually be effective. For the rest of us the argument is about the best tactics of retreat. Here there are two possible lines of thought, best explained in terms of military analogies.

The first is the Fabian or "regroup-in-good-order" school, to which Sir Geoffrey Howe, the majority of the Cabinet, and most of the Foreign Office subscribe. The argument is that the present position is too exposed and that we are in danger of sustaining serious casualties (in terms of credibility and interim damage to our interests) in trying to hold it. If we hang on too long we may find ourselves completely overrun and wiped out. Better to give ground, while there is still time, and fall back to prepared positions halfway down.

The Horatian, or "they-shall-not-pass", brigade to which the Prime Minister and one or two others belong, resist this reasoning on two planes. At the instinctive level they simply believe that it is pusillanimous. On the more rational level they maintain, first, that the danger is not as bad as it looks, and the likely casualty figures are exaggerated; Commonwealth

leaders such as Rajiv Gandhi and Kenneth Kaunda are rhetorical sabre-rattlers but weak on action when the moment comes; the ANC are years away from power and withdrawal is therefore premature anyway.

Secondly, they believe that the fall-back positions that have been prepared are badly situated for defence: once you have agreed to moderate sanctions then it is almost impossible to argue against tightening the screw if they don't work. Thirdly, some of the Conservative troops will shoot the general if the retreat is sounded. Finally, there is still an outside chance of a miracle in the shape of a general armistice, brought about by a last-minute change of heart in Pretoria. Altogether, the idea is that by standing firm you may get away with it, and even if you have to move in the end you may not need to go so far so fast.

There is more to be said for the Horatian-Thanter position than is sometimes conceded. It worked, after a fashion, in the matter of the EEC budget and again in the miners' strike, although the cost in both these cases was very high. But if the grants (as I think she does) that she cannot actually allow the Commonwealth to break up or for counter sanctions to be applied against Britain, is it now worth paying an interim price — Commonwealth ill-will and a bad start to the British presidency of the EEC — in the hope, at best, of gaining a few months time? Is it worth risking the more ignominious and costly defeat that will occur if our present attitude causes the Commonwealth to demand a bigger retreat than it would have done if we had gone willingly a month ago?

The answer would only be "yes" if there were a fair chance of persuading the South African government to shift. (The advantage of being able to say to 20 or 30 Tory right-wingers "well at least we tried" is very small.) But no encouraging signal of any kind has been received from President Botha. There is merely a presumption in Downing Street that he owes Mrs Thatcher something, and that now he has demonstrated his control of the internal situation he can afford to relax a bit.

Perhaps so, but against that must be set the more potent fact that the month which Sir Geoffrey Howe has been allotted for miracle-working happens to be the run-up to the National Party's federal and provincial congresses at which the far right have to be persuaded to accept even the minimal package of constitutional reform that is being set before them. It is in the wildest degree improbable, if not actually impossible, that Botha would release Nelson Mandela at this time.

In short, Fabius-Howe has the best of the argument — and a fat lot of good that does him under Mrs Thatcher's consulship. The poor man simply finds himself forcibly recast in the role of Spurius Lartius and now stands shivering on the Tiber bridge beside a crazy hero as Porcena's hordes advance.

Paul Pickering

From wickets to pickets

When a friend's playful Labrador seized my cricket box and disappeared with it into impenetrable gorse bushes I was thankful that my innings was over.

For long gone are the trusting days when several pink "protectors" could be found lurking in the team's bag and chaps lent them to each other without a second thought. Try to borrow one now in post-Aids Hampshire and the weekend cricketer is likely to be subjected to a hypochondriacal inquisition on personal habits, not to mention whether he has ever lived in Haiti or been bitten by a Howler monkey in Rwanda. Much easier to go and buy another.

Or so I thought. The battered aluminium box which the dog ran off with — now possibly a desirable detached residence for a family of voles — had been something of an heirloom. I was not *au fait* with the present state of the market. In the first store a sulky girl whose lapel badge proclaimed she was called Tracey produced a huge cardboard container when I asked for a cricket protector.

"You can stick it on here if you like. You don't need a mirror do you?" It was a great relief when she pulled a batsman's helmet from the wrapping.

As I explained it was not my head that I was worried about. Tracey's friend Susan started to giggle and went over to the rack of cricket stumps. She returned with several grubby plastic bags of protectors at arm's length. A woman next to me at the counter began to titter too.

"Is this all you have?" I said, fighting a rising tide of embarrassment. The exquisite products, elegantly edged with hand-sewn leather, had been lovingly fashioned in Delhi, no doubt by some cricket-box-wallah whose craft had been handed down since the early days of the Raj. The only trouble was they appeared to have been specially made for a team of midge.

"What's wrong?" snapped Tracey. By this time most of London had arrived in the cricket and croquet mallet department. "It's a wee bit small." I stam-

pered. "Haven't you got, well, something more accommodating? You don't have those bright pink ones do you?" Assistant Susan's looks indicated that all I needed was a dirty raincoat.

"Oh, the pink ones," said Tracey sagely. I clutched to her words like a drowning man. "Do you have some?"

"No," she shook her head. "The police took them. Bought all the larger ones and the jock-straps as well. They went off with nearly the whole stock. Only these are left. Are you sure they wouldn't fit?"

After scouring the West End without success, one salesman offered a sociological explanation for the box famine. "It's because of all these riots and disturbances," he explained. "The police cleaned us out as far back as the miners' strike. They go for the pink ones because they are roomier and are the only type that can take a kick. They are thicker, have rounded sides and are comfortable in all weathers. Even soccer hooligans use them. It's all down to social strife. I'm sorry, but we just don't have any."

I felt dismayed. A familiar object from a genteel Sunday afternoon's cricket had become something sinister. Politics probably cannot be kept out of sport but you don't expect to encounter it in your cricket trousers.

Of course, a shortage of adequate protectors may explain the dreadful state of English cricket. If our Test side are having to squeeze their manhood into tiny foreign boxes it's no wonder they lose games and look perpetually on the verge of tears and legal action. Meanwhile, on the picket lines and hippy convoys our constables are safe and comfortable.

However, this insight into national priorities and why we lose Test matches did not help me in my personal quest. Suggested substitutes have ranged from an old copy of *Vile Bodies* to an actor friend's black cod piece, which would cut a dash if worn over whites. So I shall just have to protect myself adequately and scour those gorse bushes for my old one. It's just not cricket.



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ENDING THE DUOPOLY

Whatever may be the immediate impact of the Peacock Report, it can hardly fail in the longer term to exercise a strong influence on thinking and policy about broadcasting. The report is essentially the first attempt in this country to look at broadcasting policy from first principles. It asks the simple, essential questions: How is broadcasting different from other services? What are the implications for regulation? How can regulation be made effective, and yet interfere as little as possible with individual choice in a free society? For decades to come, serious analysis of broadcasting policy will start with this report.

The committee members faced a dilemma. They could find little to recommend that was both immediate and radical. They sensibly chose to make their main contribution not to the present, but to the future.

The prospects they hold out are generally attractive: a genuinely consumer-dominated market in video publishing, with publicly-subsidized production playing an important, but definitely secondary, role. In the end, that is the only broadcasting policy suitable to a free society. The Peacock Committee has done a great service in stating this with such clarity and vigour.

The report proposes a three stage model for the evolution of broadcasting based upon the application of new broadcasting technologies. They are the status quo plus indexation of the BBC licence fee; "direct subscription" to broadcasting organisations in which the BBC would be financed through voluntary subscriptions as Teletext is today; and, finally, multiplicity of choice in a completely free market in video publishing. This provides a clearly marked path for future decision-making. And if we eventually skip the middle stage — subscription financing — and go directly from the current system to a full national network with unlimited video publishing, then so much the better.

The committee's analysis of the "comfortable duopoly" of BBC and ITV has led it to recommendations for present policy that deserve to be endorsed: the privatization of Radios One and Two, the auctioning of direct broadcasting by satellite (DBS) franchises, the auctioning of any new radio frequencies, the

sale of silent night time TV hours, and a requirement that the BBC, over a 10-year period, increase its proportion of TV programmes made by independent producers to 40 per cent of the total. The last is especially important: broadcasting as much as Fleet Street has been the victim of high production costs fuelled by powerful in-house unions.

But competitive tendering for ITV franchises provoked a 4:3 split in the committee. We can see why the minority was hesitant about the enforceability of contract conditions where a company turns out to have made losses. On balance, however, we are with the majority: a loss-making company that has made a mistake can always give up its franchise and so avoid any future rental payments.

Deregulation of cable TV, which would permit British Telecom and Mercury to act as common carriers of cable programming, and would remove all restrictions on pay-per-channel and pay-per-programme, will also serve to open up the market in video delivery systems. The viewer would then enjoy the same wide range of choice as the magazine reader now enjoys at a bookstall. On the principle that competition is the best antidote to sloth, we welcome that.

There must be one main reservation about the Peacock Report on the subject of advertising — the very subject that provoked the government into setting up the committee in the first place. The Peacock Committee's efforts to persuade us against advertising have persuaded us that there is indeed room for limited advertising on the BBC as a second-best compromise between full consumer choice and the present system of public impost.

The committee's arguments on this are weak. It has in practice treated broadcast advertising as a much-cow for TV programme-makers, indeed, as a perfectly suitable subject for monopolistic pricing.

But let us apply the Committee's own logic. In a well-functioning market for video programmes, such as the Committee foresees in stage three, consumers would face a choice in the video "magazines" that were on offer: a lower cover price in return for taking some ads or a higher price for ad-free

programming. Their individual choices would determine the outcome.

Now, the committee presents some evidence — and there is more of the anecdotal kind — that most people would be happy to see some ads on the BBC in return for a lower licence fee. But it goes on to assert that if advertising were introduced on BBC, people would regret the eventual result because programme quality would decline. Is this really so? What warrant have we for believing it?

Peacock offers elaborate evidence and argument that full funding of the BBC by advertising — would lead to an unwanted decline in programme standards. Even if that were the case, these arguments would apply much less surely to limited advertising. And it is on the subject of limited advertising that the report is short and unsatisfactory. It concludes that selling even small amounts of advertising (say, 10 minutes per night on BBC) only between 7pm and 9pm only) would require the BBC to match its rivals in the search for mass audiences, and that the range and quality of programmes would suffer.

We find that claim incredible. If the BBC cannot sell more than a few minutes and cannot sell outside restricted hours, then how could its incentive to make minority programmes suffer outside those hours? And the status quo is here presented in far too rosy and unrealistic a light? Are we really asked to believe that the BBC could go much further down-market from *EastEnders* and *Dallas*?

Anxiety is expressed in Peacock that some advertising would be the thin edge of the wedge, and New Zealand is cited as an example. But tumbling down the slippery slope, though always possible, is far from inevitable. The report admits as much when, in the same paragraph, it describes well-functioning limited advertising in Italy. We are prepared, if Peacock is not, to trust citizens not to demand or support unwise extensions of advertising in the future.

It is time to experiment with a little advertising on the BBC. The alternative, after all, is to accept an ever-rising licence fee, increased public resentment, and the continuation of the BBC's uncomfortable existence as half sacred cow, half political football.

SOUTH AFRICA VERSUS THE BANKS

One of the less noble skills required of a modern diplomat is to put quite different glosses on your country's position to suit different audiences. But modern communications can make this a dangerous game. Dr Denis Worrall, who has an unenviable job as South Africa's London ambassador, discovered this to his cost on Tuesday night when he gave evidence to the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee.

The burden of his evidence was that Mrs Thatcher's attempt to bring South Africa into a post-apartheid era peacefully, by giving white voters something to grasp, was more likely to bring peaceful change than hostile aggression or the confrontation implied by thoroughgoing sanctions. The surprise was all the greater, therefore, when Dr Worrall said that South Africa might refuse to pay its debts if sanctions put it into an extreme position.

That may seem a statement of the obvious, since a ban on exports would presumably deprive the country of the wherewithal to pay its debts. But Dr Worrall made it sound like a threat. Debtor countries round the world were waiting for someone to create a precedent by reneging, he declared, and such a step "would bring down the whole world financial system."

Even to a British political audience, such a threat was badly misjudged. But it did not take long to reach the bankers. That transformed it into a dangerous gaffe — one with perhaps incalculable consequences for South Africa. Mr Barend Du Plessis, South Africa's finance minister, was obliged to move swiftly to put an entirely different complexion on the country's intentions to that crucial audience. But the damage had been done. As it is, South Africa is an embarrassment to inter-

national banks. President Botha's government is not awash with debt, but South African companies have borrowed around the world and the country depends on credit lines to finance its trade. Last summer, American banks with \$4 billion of loans or credit lines to South Africa came under intense pressure from customer lobby groups to withdraw. Enough did so to create a foreign exchange crisis, forcing Pretoria to re-introduce two-tier exchange controls and declare a moratorium on \$14 billion of short-term debts — a startling example of private sanctions at work.

Having created their own problem, the banks caused themselves more embarrassment by agreeing to what amounted to a rescheduling of payments with South Africa in order to safeguard their money. This was achieved by the diplomacy of the senior Swiss banker, Dr Fritz Leutwiler, former president of the Bank for International Settlements and it was based partly on the understanding that any financial breathing space created would be used for political progress in dismantling apartheid.

As Mr Du Plessis is at pains to point out, South Africa has kept to its financial agreement. It has reduced its borrowings and intends to continue doing so. The banks have kept trade finance flowing. But the fragility of this situation was underlined yesterday when Dr Leutwiler chose, apparently by coincidence, to announce that he was withdrawing from his role as mediator because he believes South Africa has made insufficient political progress.

It remains to be seen whether that will have any immediate effect. A review of South Africa's economy was due in September, while the

next full negotiations are not due until next summer. Bankers know that refusing to pay is always the last desperate option to which a central bank can turn if all else fails. But Dr Worrall has unwittingly emphasized the risks that the banks are running, thereby weakening the commercial argument against calls to withdraw loans and making it harder to maintain financial confidence.

The suggestion that South Africa could bring the world banking system down by reneging looks a profound miscalculation. A year ago, big debtor countries in Latin America, feeling the worst of the pains of readjustment, might well have been tempted to follow if South Africa had been the first lemming over the cliff. But that moment appears to have passed. Progress in adjustment, bank flexibility and the Baker plan have all shifted the balance of advantage towards maintaining confidence for the future. If anything, bankers now have an interest in taking a tougher line on South Africa, since special treatment there would be seized upon as a precedent by such troubled debtors as Nigeria — whereas South Africa is perhaps the only debtor country against whom harsh retaliation would arouse no indignation.

South Africa's financial difficulties are essentially the result of a political run on its currency rather than an imbalance of trade or excessive borrowing. Because the country plays a disproportionate role in Africa's trade, British banks active in the continent, as well as more recent German participants, have much to lose. The global calculations are, however, quite different from those in the general debt crisis. South Africa needs the goodwill of the banks more than the banks need South Africa.

Stricter curb on drink-driving

From Dr David V. Foster
Sir, The introduction of the Road Safety Act, nearly 20 years ago, marked the end of an era. An important change was that experts and professional witnesses such as myself were, to a very large extent, taken out of the arena of legal conflict in drink-drive cases.

My experience and statistical evidence showed that the results of blood and urine analysis, coupled with expert and professional opinions, had a minimal effect on the outcome of such cases prior to 1967.

I welcomed most warmly the Road Safety Act. The blood and urine tests conducted by independent forensic scientists, coupled with the procedural safeguards, ensured that the chance of an innocent motorist being convicted was indeed beyond all reasonable doubt.

We should have serious qualms about reintroducing the opinions of experts in this field in regard to back-calculation (report, June 27). The clear-cut case merges so imperceptibly with the blurred case as to be a positive menace to clear and accurate thinking.

May I draw attention to the HMSO publication, *Report on Alcohol Measuring Instruments*, in which were the words of Sir William Paton, FRCS, in his letter to the Home Secretary:

"I incline to think that lowering the limit (from 80mg blood to 50mg, say) might be a more straightforward next step than trying to combine a revision of the penalty structure. Before such steps are taken, I would hope that the problem of 'unjustified non-prosecution' as well as that of 'unjust prosecutions' is debated more fully."

Lowering the legal limit in line with perceived public opinion is of very great importance. Back-calculation is a difficult and fraught issue and while it is being discussed the major matter, lowering the limit, ought to have much greater predominance.

Yours faithfully,
D. V. FOSTER,
56 Elmbridge Avenue,
Tolworth, Surrey.

Hospital economy

From Mr Peter Ring
Sir, During the month of August it is proposed that the theatre I use at Dorking Hospital should close, ostensibly to save money, although none of the administrators can identify what, if any, savings might occur.

For four weeks some of the nursing staff, both my house surgeons, the consultant anaesthetist with whom I work and I will be paid to do nothing: the theatre will stand idle, the wards half-empty and some 40 patients who are heavily disabled with arthritic changes in their hip joints will remain untreated in addition to many with lesser afflictions. With a waiting list of some 250 similarly disabled patients I feel I must protest.

The Griffiths report envisaged a commercial style of management but in business, customers who are dissatisfied can go elsewhere. My patients cannot and are forced to wait at home in the hope that somebody will speak up on their behalf.

Yours faithfully,
PETER RING,
Joint Replacement Unit,
Dorking General Hospital,
Horsham Road, Dorking, Surrey,
June 25.

The Blue Riband

From Mr Ralph Vincent
Sir, In 1931 I crossed the Atlantic in the Bristol City, of Bristol, a ship of 2,858 tons gross, laden with a cargo of china clay.

On July 12 I made this entry in my diary:
A good day, the ship doing about 10 knots. After dinner smoke appeared on the horizon, then a packet of funnels: very soon the Mauretania hove in sight. She passed us like a racehorse about five miles off the starboard beam. Soon out of sight.

Such were the ships which held the Blue Riband. Without denigrating the wonderful crossing of Virgin Atlantic Challenger II and the courage of her crew, we are just not comparing like with like.

Yours faithfully,
RALPH VINCENT,
Dutch House,
31 Ridgeway, Hutton Mount,
Brentwood, Essex.

Milkman's hazards

From Mr J. Pearson
Sir, May I reassure Captain Douds, RN (June 25) that milkmen have no problems. They work in the small hours, and their vehicles (left or right hand drive does not matter) have open sides; the milkman discounts quite happily from either side of his float.

I should know: many years ago I did that very job — and never was I fitter!

Yours truly,
JOHN PEARSON,
35 Granville Road,
Colchester, Essex.

Theatre speed-up

From Mr John Tilsiter
Sir, On several visits to the theatre recently we have always noticed the hold-ups in attempting to take our seats by people queuing to purchase programmes.

Surely, when purchasing tickets, one could be asked if a programme is required. If purchasing the tickets from an agency, the vendor could issue a voucher exchangeable in the theatre for the programme.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN TILSITER,
26 Winchfield Close,
Kenton,
Harrow, Middlesex.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UGC evaluation under attack

From Professor Emeritus Bernard Crick

Sir, David Walker's otherwise most thoughtful and incisive article (June 20) on the threat to part-time higher degree studies as embodied in Birkbeck College is unhelpfully misleading in one respect. He speculates that one of the background factors might have been that by the University Grants Committee's recent assessment "five of [Birkbeck's] subject areas rank as below average, four are average, and two better than average".

That seems to me, in any case, not far below average; but the UGC's assessment related only to research: it specifically disclaimed any ability or intent to assess teaching.

Publishing research assessments, on undisclosed criteria, to explain the ups and downs of grants has caused trouble enough in universities, since they will be used internally to raise up some departments and cast down others of the demand for subject and the value of the education offered (why most parents, after all, want their children to go to university); but it is stupid philistinism indeed if they were applied to an institution which, as I know from experience, has some excellent areas of research but none the less was founded to teach adults by night and finds its continuing and unique purpose in doing that at the highest levels.

How sad if readers were led to think that Birkbeck's great teaching reputation stands condemned. That is not so. It has simply and recklessly been ignored.

I wonder, also, if David Walker is right to see this simply as part of the "government assault on higher education generally"? There has been such an assault, indeed, but the odd and unexplained thing about the threat to Birkbeck is that the encouragement of second-chance and self-help for mature evening students, who are serious, hardworking and, moreover, pay their own fees, is rare but clear common ground between the thinking of all the major political parties.

I have no love for this Government, but the blame more likely lies with the priorities of the UGC. Some vice-chancellors must still think that teaching adult part-time students is below the salt, a matter for the polytechnics or for "distance learning" in the Open University, and are desperate to defend their own at any cost, whom they rigidly conceive as the straight-from-schools.

I hope the Secretary of State can find some way of protecting Birkbeck against what I suspect to be academic traditionalism unthinkingly exercised against

public policy and the public interest.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD CRICK,
Nether Liberton House,
Old Mill Lane,
Gilmerton Road, Edinburgh.

From Professor Ivor H. Mills

Sir, The Chairman of the University Grants Committee has been reported (June 21) as accusing Birkbeck College of being unable to do simple arithmetic. However, the letter from Lord Flowers (June 25) suggests that the UGC may be defective in arithmetical knowledge. This is not the first time that the UGC's knowledge of arithmetic has been challenged.

Their medical sub-committee visited Cambridge in 1982. We submitted a document to them indicating that their previous recommendation that the clinical school should have "a disproportionate cut" when the whole university was cut by 5 per cent was based on an arithmetical fallacy.

Our clinical school at that time was accused of being unduly expensive. One of the factors taken into account is the cost per student and in broad terms this is based on the money paid by the UGC each year divided by the total number of students. If the course were three years, the figure is divided by three: since our course is two years and three months, the divisor is smaller and the cost inevitably comes out higher.

We presented them with a paper showing that if the cost per year were divided by the number of doctors turned out per year, the Cambridge clinical school was halfway down the cost league.

As a result, the clinical school took an initial 12 per cent cut, later reduced to 8 per cent. Most of that cut was inflicted on the Department of Medicine (three lecturer posts suppressed). Now the UGC assessment of universities states that they are disappointed with the achievements of the clinical school in Cambridge.

In 20-odd years the Department of Medicine alone has turned out 19 students with PhD degrees. I wonder how many other clinical departments of medicine have exceeded this. In addition we have provided one professor of medicine and the head of physiology in another university.

One wonders how much faith to have in the recent UGC's assessments of university departments; but the axe is falling all the same. Yours faithfully,
IVOR H. MILLS,
University of Cambridge Clinical School,
Department of Medicine,
Level 5,
Addenbrooke's Hospital,
Hills Road, Cambridge.

What no one seems to have noticed, however, is that three of the statues form a group. The nude Venus removes her sandal, Juno rather reluctantly unwinds her drapery, and Minerva raises her helmet each with her eyes on a dazzled mortal male.

An inventory of the furnishings of the second Marquess of Rockingham's house in Grosvenor Square (among the Wentworth Woodhouse monuments deposited in Sheffield Central Library) reveals that they were originally displayed in a ground-floor room, together with an "antique marble figure" of Paris, all on mahogany pedestals. It must have been the need to make sense of the classical statue which stimulated this unprecedented commission.

The Director of the Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool has suggested that a statue to be sold at Christie's on July 16, in a sale of fine antiquities, is this statue of Paris. It is earnestly to be hoped that the four statues can be acquired for a public collection in this country so that this group, the most ambitious and impressive narrative group of its kind ever attempted by an English sculptor — can be recreated.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS PENNY,
The Ashmolean Museum,
Department of Western Art,
Oxford.

Penal shortcomings

From Lord Hunt
Sir, Everyone who is concerned about penal policy in the United Kingdom and the quality of British justice will welcome the initiative of the Justices' Clerks' Commission in calling for a sentencing commission under the Lord Chief Justice (report, June 23).

This country has good cause to be proud of its judicial system, which has provided a model for many other countries; nor would any fair-minded person question the integrity and high standards of magistrates' courts. None the less, a sample of 600 petty sessions has shown that there is a divergence in sentencing of young males to custody between 6.1 per cent in one part of the country and 29.4 per cent in another. Wide differences exist even between neighbouring courts, which cannot be convincingly explained by differences in local circumstances.

The recent guidance issued by the Home Office, *The Sentence of the Court*, was a useful step in the desired direction; but there is a strong case for further initiatives that have been taken so far, which, while respecting the basic principle of the independence of the judiciary, will achieve greater consistency in sentencing.

There is a further point. Britain has no cause to be proud of the fact that as a percentage of the population more offenders are sent to prison than any other

ON THIS DAY

JULY 4 1859

The Times was in no doubt, 10 days after the bloody battle of Solferino, as to the decisive factors in the Austrian defeat, and the lessons to be learned by our Government from it. This extract is taken from a leading article. A Swiss humanitarian, Jean Henri Dunant (1828-1910) later proposed the formation of voluntary relief services in all countries for the wounded; this led in 1864 to the founding of the Red Cross, for which in 1901 he (with Frederic Passy) was awarded the first Nobel peace prize.

THE BATTLE OF SOLFERINO

This Battle of Solferino illustrates upon a great scale the character of the two antagonists. Its phases and its facts are all recorded. Its indelible picture is graven upon all our minds. Aided by the experience of correspondents in either camp — those heralds of sacred and peaceful mission — we have followed the Austrian Emperor and from the fight, and the French Emperor throughout his advance. We have twice seen the field from the "Spy of Italy", and have surveyed it alternately through French and Austrian glasses. Today the Battle of Solferino takes its place in history in the shape in which it will be known for evermore. It was a great and sanguinary battle, fought on a sunny day, a summer day; and it was a battle in which the Austrians were defeated, but not broken, by an enemy inferior in numbers but superior in intelligence and arms. While the mind of Europe is yet excited by the details of this mighty carnage, and is growing familiar with the events of the battle, it is time for us to point the moral of the catastrophe.

In this very engagement, according to the official accounts of each army, the Austrians killed and wounded 12,000 Frenchmen, with a loss to themselves of but 9,000 killed and wounded. There could have been no fight when the numbers stand thus at the end of the day. Nor are the Austrians inferior as marksmen. Their Riflemen hit 720 French officers, whereas 120 were shot dead, while the French succeeded in killing and wounding only 230 of the Austrian officers. They certainly are not inferior to their French in discipline. Their *ris invariable* is magnificent, and they retreat invariably with a bold, steady front, to the foot. Why is it, then, that they who can lose so valiantly can never win? Because, unfortunately for them, present knowledge is present power, and their knowledge is not of the present, but of the past. They are a stagnating respectability. They are governed and directed by old rules, old men, and old routines. They have an agency who does not care a centime for antiquity, and is not above taking the most daring methods to gain a victory. The Emperor of AUSTRIA makes up his mind to do a remarkably fine piece of LOUIS QUATORZE strategy. He executes an elaborate piece of old-fashioned deception, crowning the Mincio with his whole force, and then recrossing it with his two hundred thousand men, and firing the contemplated surprise of the enemy at 9 o'clock in the morning. The Emperor of the FRENCH, representing the juvenile ingenuity of school, in the most ungentlemanlike manner refuses to be surprised.

Having recourse to a new-fangled expedient which no trustworthy veteran who can count his seventy years would condescend to use, he sends a man up in a balloon; and, at the expense of a few yards of silk and a few square feet of gas, is told the exact position of all those masses which are drawn up so scientifically off to his right, with the intention of surprising him at the comfortable, leisurely hour of 9 a.m. The man of his time — the clever, active, shrewd, nothing-daring-die adventurer of the nineteenth century, by dint of this small contrivance, becomes master of the position. He knows what is going to happen and where his enemy is, and how many he is; and while the heavy, self-complacent Austrian, is chucking at the formal surprise that is to come off at 9 a.m., the attacking daybreak, chooses his own time and point of attack, and remains master of the field.

country in western Europe: the number of youth custody orders available to magistrates under the provisions of the Criminal Justice Act, 1982, is running at more than 30,000 a year. Youth custody centres are full and a number of young offenders receiving their sentence are having to serve it in the more rigorous and less constructive conditions of detention centres.

There is a most urgent need to encourage magistrates to make greater use of a range of non-custodial sentences available to them which are, to say the least, no less effective in the great majority of cases and cost the taxpayer a great deal less money.

Yours truly,
JOHN HUNT,
Highway Cottage, Aston,
Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

Sale of the century

From the Rev W. K. A. Hussey
Sir, Mr Tiley (June 27) should consider himself lucky, in his seeking a birthday card pre-printed for 100. I searched quite a while in one part of this county (known for longevity) to find even one card. Most stopped at the 85th birthday.

What was I to do? Buy two for a 30th birthday; or add a 15th birthday greeting to one of 85? Yours faithfully,
W. K. A. HUSSEY,
Gorran Vicarage,
St Austell, Cornwall.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 3: The President of the Federal Republic of Germany and his wife, Mrs. Weizsäcker, left Paddington Railway Station by train this morning to visit Cardiff.

Their Excellencies were received upon arrival at Cardiff Central Station by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for South Glamorgan (Mrs Susan Williams).

The President of the Federal Republic of Germany and his wife, Mrs. Weizsäcker, visited St David's Hall, the National Concert Hall for Wales, where their Excellencies viewed the Stuttgart glass screen and met representatives of Welsh towns twinned with German towns.

Afterwards their Excellencies were entertained at luncheon by the Lord Mayor of Cardiff (Councillor David Myrff Evans) in Cardiff Castle.

In the afternoon the President of the Federal Republic of Germany and his wife, Mrs. Weizsäcker, visited the Welsh Folk Museum (Curator, Mr Trevor Owen) at St Fagans.

His Excellency then visited Amersham International plc and was received by the President (Sir John Hill) and the General Manager (Dr Eufor Evans).

Her Excellency visited Penrice Hotel, Llanelli, and was received by Mrs Kenneth Jones.

The President of the Federal Republic of Germany and his wife, Mrs. Weizsäcker, left Cardiff for Wales Airport in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight for Royal Air Force Northolt.

His Excellency Mr G.U.S. Mathabaphi was received in audience by the Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Commission as High Commissioner for Botswana in London.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the High Commission who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Mr O.J. Tshabala (Counsellor), Mr I.C. Lekoa (First Secretary), Miss N.E. Mousoni (Second Secretary), Mr M.G.T. Mookodi (Education Attache) and Miss M.S. Sefthare (Administrative Attache).

Sir Patrick Wright (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) who had the honour of being received by the Queen was present and the Gentlemen

Receptions

HM Government
Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, was host at a reception held at the Government Offices, Great George Street, yesterday for the cultural attachés of the European Economic Community to mark the commencement of the United Kingdom's Presidency of the community from July 1.

Lord Mayor of Westminster
The Lord Mayor of Westminster gave a reception at City Hall yesterday for members of the Magistrates' Association.

British Academy
Sir Randolph Quirk, President of the British Academy, received the guests at a reception held last night at the Banqueting House after the academy's annual meeting.

Luncheons

Butchers' Company
Mr David L. Franks, Master of the Butchers' Company, presided at a luncheon held at Butchers' Hall yesterday. Mr Alan J. Mills and Sir Roy Griffiths also spoke. Among the guests were the Masters of the Grocers', Bakers' and Saddlers' Companies.

Blacksmiths' Company
Wing Commander V.S.W. Smyth, Prime Warden of the

COURT AND SOCIAL

of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr A. Ibbott (Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Monrovia) and Mrs Ibbott had the honour of being received by The Queen. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were entertained at a Banquet this evening by the President of the Federal Republic of Germany and his wife, Mrs. Weizsäcker, at the Ambassador's Residence, 22 Belgrave Square, SW1.

The Duchess of Grafton and the Right Hon Sir William Heseltine were in attendance. The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, today attended Receptions at St James's Palace for young people who have reached the Gold Standard in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

His Royal Highness this afternoon at Buckingham Palace presented the 1985 Tribology Gold Medal to Professor K. Johnson.

The Prince Andrew, President of the Photographers' Gallery, this afternoon opened "The Animal in Photography" Exhibition at the Photographers' Gallery, Great Newport Street, WC2.

The Prince Andrew, accompanied by Miss Sarah Ferguson, this evening attended the Bouter Ball at the Officers' Mess, Chelsea Barracks, in aid of the Forces Help Society and Lord Roberts Works.

Wing Commander Adam Wiles was in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Chief Commandant, Women's Royal Naval Service, this morning opened the WRNS Exhibition at the Fleet Air Arm Museum, Yeovil, Somerset.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Somerset (Lieutenant-Colonel Walter Luttrell) and the Flag Officer, Naval Air Command (Lt-Admiral E.E. Middleton).

Mrs Malcolm Wallace was in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips and Captain Mark Phillips were entertained at a Banquet this evening by the President of the Federal Republic of Germany and his wife, Mrs. Weizsäcker, at the Ambassador's Residence, 22 Belgrave Square, SW1.

KENSINGTON PALACE
July 3: The Prince of Wales today visited the support group

leaders of the Five Towns Plus for people with learning difficulties in the City of London, West Yorkshire and in Featherstone, met support

group leaders for the Pontefract, Featherstone and Normanton areas. His Royal Highness, attended by Mr David Roycroft, travelled in the Royal Train.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were entertained at a Banquet this evening by the President of the Federal Republic of Germany and his wife, Mrs. Weizsäcker, at the Ambassador's Residence, 22 Belgrave Square, SW1.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
July 3: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, visited the CSC (Specialised Vehicles) Limited at Newport Pagnell, and later presented the Milton Keynes Export Club Export Awards for 1986 at Woughton Campus, Milton Keynes.

Sir Richard Buckley was in attendance. The Duke and Duchess of Kent were entertained at a Banquet this evening by the President of the Federal Republic of Germany and his wife, Mrs. Weizsäcker, at the Ambassador's Residence, 22 Belgrave Square, SW1.

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French furniture prices soar

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Prices for French furniture went through the roof at Christie's yesterday. Veneered in rare woods and encrusted with ormolu, it is the grandest furniture ever made but clients for such expensive products are very choosy and most auctions contain a mix of high prices and expensive failures.

Yesterday only three per cent was left unsold with a total of £1,769,202, and there was keen bidding on almost everything.

The most startling prices were for quirky and original designs. A Louis XVIII ornate gueridon with a porphyry top sold for £97,200 (estimate £15,000 to £20,000) with quantities of private buyers competing. Acanthus leaves and pineapples feature in the scrolling ormolu base.

A Russian ornate mahogany and satinwood centre table was pounced on in the

same way, selling for £70,200 (estimate £25,000 to £35,000). Ormolu-mounted porcelain was very much "in" with a garniture of three black Chinese vases with handsome mounts at £48,600 (estimate £15,000 to £20,000) and a mounted celadon bowl at £29,160 (estimate £3,000 to £4,000). Both had the added glamour of coming from the Harewood family.

The Duke of Buccleuch's name gave a similar boost to a Louis XV kingwood commode which brought £124,200 (estimate £60,000 to £80,000). At Sotheby's the first naval Victoria Cross seen at auction secured £31,900 (estimate £24,000 to £26,000). It was won by Seaman J.J. Magennis, a diver, for attaching charges to a Japanese ship and sinking it.

The only Ulsterman to win a VC in the Second World War,

he was unemployed in the bleak postwar years and sold his medal, saying: "What is the use of a medal when you need money for your family to live?" A well-wisher bought it for £75 and returned it to him on condition that he would not sell it in his lifetime.

The morning sale of sculpture and works of art from the collection formed by Tom Burn at Rous Lench made £288,002 with 7 per cent unsold. The two days of sales devoted to his collection have totalled £2,085,655.

The star turn was a limewood relief carving of Queen Anne set among flowers and fruit, by Graining Gibbons or his workshop, which made £20,900 (estimate £15,000 to £20,000). The afternoon works of art sale included a rare German bronze *agamele* of the early fifteenth century at £44,000.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.G. Hardingham
and Miss T.N. Mackworth-Young

The engagement is announced between Michael, youngest son of Major and Mrs M.L. Hardingham, of East Harting, West Sussex, and Tessa, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs G.W. Mackworth-Young, of Fisherton de la Mere, Wiltshire.

Mr J.D. Barber
and Miss M.M. Walsh

The engagement is announced between John Damian, elder son of Mr and Mrs H. Barber, of Wakefield, Yorkshire, and Bernadette, daughter of Dr and Mrs R. Walsh, of East Ardsley, Yorkshire.

Mr G.J.K. Benson
and Miss H.M. Bunting

The engagement is announced between George, son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs J.E. Benson, of Chesham, Buckinghamshire, and Helen, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Bunting, of The Grove Farm, Kimbolton, Herefordshire.

Mr A.B. Carter
and Miss N.L. Potter

The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs Brian Carter, of Kirk Ella, Hull, and Nicola, daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Potter, of Kewton, Hong Kong.

Mr J.J. van D. Edwards
and Miss V.A. Crawford

The engagement is announced between Julian John van D. Edwards, only son of Mr and Mrs C.J. van D. Edwards, of Salisbury House, Leamington, Isle of Man, and Virginia Anson, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs John A. Crawford, of Kewton, West, Lezayre, Isle of Man.

Mr W.E. Faber
and Miss R.M. Faulkner

The engagement is announced between William Erik, elder son of Mr and Mrs J.C. Faber, of St Albans, Hertfordshire, and Rebecca, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.C. Faulkner, of St Albans, Hertfordshire.

Mr P.C. Gossall
and Mrs S. Baber

The marriage took place in London on July 2 of Mr Philip Gossall, of Iscody Park, Whitchurch, and Mrs Selma Baber, of Walpole, Suffolk.

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Memorial service

Miss E. Smart
The Canadian High Commissioner was present at a memorial service for Miss Elizabeth Smart held at St James's, Piccadilly, yesterday.

Frederick N. McCurry, Frebendary of Miss Beryl Bainbridge and Mr Jeffrey Bernard gave addresses. Mr Sebastian Barker, son, read "The Pulley", by George Herbert, Miss Anna Cartwright and Miss Hil Neville read poems by Elizabeth Smart. Mrs Elspeth Langlands Barker read "They are all gone into the world of light", by Henry Vaughan, and Mr George Barker read "Quia Amor Languet", Miss Myra Sackville read "Vol, Oh, Sapete", and Miss Jocelyn Abbott, pianist, played "Three Part Invention" by J.S. Bach.

Mr R.P. Moss
and Miss A.M. Chascom-Accott

The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr and Mrs A.H. Moss, of Goudhurst, Kent, and Avril, daughter of Mr R. Accott, of Sidlesham, West Sussex, and Mrs D.M. Chascom-Accott, of Portsmouth, Hampshire.

Mr D. Readman
and Miss S.J. Kennedy

The engagement is announced between Daniel, son of Mr and Mrs Daniel E. Readman Sr, of Glasgow, Connecticut, and Sarah, daughter of Colonel and Mrs W.C.A. Kennedy, of Wimbome Newbury, Dorset.

Mr D.L. Shaw
and Dr L.C. Brown

The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs D.L. Shaw, of Coombe Bank, Kingston-upon-Thames, and Lesley, daughter of Mr A.D.T. Brown and the late Mrs C.T. Brown, of Liberton, Edinburgh.

Mr N.J. Vlodich
and Miss J.M. Mills

The engagement is announced between Nick, elder son of Mr and Mrs J.A. Vlodich, of Cuperino, California, and Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. Mills, of Ridge, Dorset.

Mr W.J. Wedlake
and Miss E.L. Bowes

The engagement is announced between William John, only son of Mr and Mrs William John Wedlake, of South Zee, Devon, and Elizabeth Kessick, only daughter of the late Mr and Mrs Brian Kessick Bowes, of Maidstone, Kent.

Mr F.M. Willis
and Miss R.M. Faulkner

The engagement is announced between Michael, elder son of Dr F.P. Willis and the late Mrs Willis, of The Folly, Sillingbury, Wiltshire, and Rebecca, daughter of Commander and Mrs William Faulkner, of Falcounwood, Petersfield, Hampshire.

Mr P.C. Gossall
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Appointments

Latest appointments include:
Mr John W. Mills to be president of the Royal Society of British Sculptors.

Mr Gwyn Francis, aged 55, forestry commissioner (operations) to be director general of the Forestry Commission on November 10 on the retirement of Mr George Holmes.

Mr Charles Wessman, to be a part-time director of the Forestry Commission in succession to Lord Gibson-Watt.

Mr James Longman to be a chief guest conductor of the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra from next January.

Mr James McKinnon to be director general of gas supply with the responsibility of monitoring British Gas's activities as a public supplier.

Dr William R. O. Egginton, aged 54, principal medical officer in the Department of Health and Social Security, to be chief medical adviser (social security) in the department in succession to Dr Greenfield, who is taking charge of the division responsible for medical policy on children, nutrition, preventive medicine, obstetrics and gynaecology.

Dr Christopher Langston Flower, of London N2, consultant anaesthetist, left £480,681 net.

Mr Austin James Cook, of Ashfield, Suffolk, left £329,257 net.

Other estates include (net, before tax):
Mr Cyril Stanley, of Essex, solicitor, £448,771.

Mr Lorna George Hamilton, of Lichfield, £363,792.

Mr Walker, of London SW1, £479,131.

Mr Walker, of London SW1, £483,826.

Legal
Mr John Hayes, solicitor, chief executive of the Warwickshire County Council, to be secretary-general of the Law Society from January 31, 1987, on the retirement of Mr John Bowron.

Mr Christopher Snowling, solicitor, secretary, General Purposes, to be director, legal aid, from August 12 in succession to Mr David Edwards.

Master Topley, a Master of the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court, to be in addition to the County Registrar.

Mr R.D.A. Adam to be county court and district registrar for the Truro courts from August 4.

Science report
Obesity is largely a matter of heredity, according to researchers who have conducted the largest study yet on the matter.

The study, involving more than 4,000 pairs of male twins, compared identical twins - those who originated from a single egg at fertilisation with fraternal twins, conceived from two fertilised eggs.

Researchers at the University of Pennsylvania found that cases where both twins were fat were twice as high among identical sets as among the others.

"These studies suggest a strong genetic influence on human fatness and obesity", a report in this week's issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association* concludes.

The evidence is probably the strongest yet to emerge supporting

the genetic theory in obesity. The findings were drawn from a registry maintained by the National Academy of Science - National Research Council. The registry contains information on more than 15,000 sets of male twins born in the United States between 1917 and 1927, who served in the armed forces during the Second World War or the Korean War.

They were measured for height and weight when inducted into the armed forces. A follow-up survey of over 4,000 of the sets of twins asked what their height and weight had become.

Previous studies have suggested heredity plays a major role in the tendency to put on weight, but there has been much debate among international experts about the value of existing evidence.

One possible genetic explanation is that people who are fat, or "programmed" to use the energy they absorb from food more efficiently than thin people.

Thus, the obese use less energy for any activity, including their resting metabolism, and the excess energy from food is converted into fat and stored.

Previous surveys have shown that four out of five fat children become obese adults, and half of obese adults had an obese parent.

But sceptical researchers have commented that familial obesity may be behavioural rather than genetic. Fat parents may have fat children simply because the family are big eaters who enjoy their food more than the average.

OBITUARY

MR CHARLES UNWIN

Authority on the sweet pea

Mr Charles Unwin, the well-known seedsman and breeder of sweet peas, and one of the great horticulturalists of his generation, died on July 1. He was 91.

Like so many who have devoted their lives to working in horticulture and breeding plants he was generous in giving his time to help gardeners by his talks and lectures and he was kindly, courteous and a good friend to very many people.

Charles William James Unwin was the son of the founder of the family seed firm established in 1903. He joined the firm at the age of 14.

He had started breeding sweet peas while still at school and when he was 16 he was offered a post with the largest seed firm in the United States, but his father refused him permission to accept it.

While an authority on flowers and vegetables raised from seed, he specialised in the sweet pea side of the family business and earned worldwide recognition as an expert on sweet pea breeding - over 250 varieties were introduced by the family's firm.

He also raised the Unwin strain of dwarf-hybrid dahlias which were the first of their kind and which won worldwide acclaim.

In addition to his horticultural activities he raised a new breed of fowls and rabbits. For his horticultural work, Unwin was awarded the Veitch Memorial Medal by the Royal Horticultural Society. He was president emeritus of the National Sweet Pea Society and received the Society's Eckford Medal.

He gave the first ever gardening broadcast on the old 2LO radio programme - naturally, on sweet peas - and he wrote, broadcast and took part in television programmes over many years.

Until a few weeks before he died he went each day to the firm's headquarters and trailed round at Histon.

He lost an eye at the age of two but joined the army during the First World War. He was commanding officer of the Home Guard in Histon and, during the Second World War, served with the Army's horticultural advisory group, advising on how to make best use of the available military land for growing food.

He was also chairman of the Cambridge and Isle of Ely Horticultural Executive Council for 20 years until 1970.

THE ARTS

Television

Without demur

Mohammed Ajeeb was born in a small village in Kashmir, emigrated to Britain in 1957 and after working in a soap factory and on the buses and the train was elected Lord Mayor of Bradford in 1985 — the first Asian to hold such office anywhere in this country. *The First Citizen* (BBC2) followed him over the course of his mayoral term, a year which began with the Bradford City stadium disaster and continued with the final obsequies of the late Honeyford imbrolio.

Mr Ajeeb, not unexpectedly, proved to be pleasant, decent, respectable, diplomatic and well pleased with his temporary elevation. When the windows of his suburban house were smashed (perhaps coincidentally, perhaps not, the day after Mr Honeyford's resignation) he admitted "I do get worried sometimes" and promptly invited his neighbours round for what the Yorkshire middle classes like to call "a gathering". One of the guests went so far as to apologise for the outrage as though he had been personally responsible.

The fact that all the white interviewers were so keen to express their approval of Mr Ajeeb merely bore out the unspoken implication that his appeal reached far beyond the city's 13 per cent Asian population. But what the programme needed was at least one jarring voice to state the case against television should ever take down the opportunity to show up racism for the pusillanimous fools they are. Folly of a different order informed the first part of *What If It's Raining?* (Channel 4): the amour fou of the adulterers (Gregory Miles Anderson, played Deborah Findlay) and the blind slowness of the wronged husband (mild Michael Maloney). The marital quandaries of the stripped-pine classes are an unsurprising subject — how selfish of them, one thinks, how pointlessly indulgent — but Anthony Minghella's script and Stephen Whittaker's direction conspired to induce conviction, if not actual sympathy.

The barbed fencing over the baby's head; the diffident lodger who always turned up at exactly the wrong moment; the subtle baby-sitter who offered "her honour" to the stunned cockle: it all proceeded with the unburied inevitability of a tax demand.

Martin Cropper

Cinema

Allure of the fairy-tale

An Impudent Girl (15)
LumièreFool for Love (15)
Cannon Tottenham Court RoadNo End
National Film TheatreLa Cage aux folles III — The Wedding (15)
Cannons Piccadilly, Tottenham Court Road

An Impudent Girl (*L'Effrontée*), which enjoyed a big success at the French box-office earlier this year, is an attractive mixture of Hans Andersen fairy-tale and acute, affectionate psychological observation of adolescence such as distinguished Claude Miller's first feature, *La Meilleure Façon de marcher*. There Miller dealt with the growing pains of boys; here his protagonist is a 13-year-old girl.

Charlotte is at the awkward age and lets everyone know it. She is full of yearnings that she cannot define except to know that they are not satisfied by her shabby home

and by bickering with father, brother, housekeeper and a sickly, demanding, funny moppet from across the way. She glimpses and falls madly in love with her ideal: a piano prodigy of her own age, as pretty and good as she is plain and obstreperous. The Hans Andersen (or *Water Babies*) bit is where she manages to intrude herself into the little pianist's home and strike up a friendship which is much more intense for her than for the other, professionally preoccupied, child. After a lot of pain, she gets over it, just as she manages in time to elude the attentions of a gentle young paedophile.

The performance of Charlotte Gainsbourg would in itself be sufficient attraction for any film. She is an appealing and uncompromising Plain Jane, with her unmanageable hair and boyish clothes, conveying in the same moment defiance and terrible vulnerability. The performance is complemented by the other children: Clothilde Baudon as the impossibly spotless fairy-tale pianist-princess, Julie Glenn as the brat, with skills far in advance of her years in exploiting sickness as a blackmail weapon.

Originally reviewed from Cannes, Robert Altman's adaptation of Sam Shepard's play *Fool for Love* now reaches London, revealing that the text does not hold up so well as second viewing. The derivations from the Tennessee Williams and Arthur Miller of the Fifties are more apparent, as are the stage

structure and the contrived last-act revelations that explain the tormented emotional gyrations that have gone before. Sometimes the dialogue seems calculated not so much to further the dramatic design as to give meaty scenes to the writer-star.

Sam Shepard plays Eddie, a drifter and occasional film stuntman, who has tracked down May (Kim Basinger) to a shanty motel on the edge of the desert. They pass the night in sparring and taunting each other, compulsively renewing the familiar misery of an old, deep, mutual love-hate. They are observed by a cadaverous old drunk (Harry Dean Stanton) whose role in their tormented history is in due time revealed, and are occasionally peppered with gunshot by a jealous female admirer of Eddie.

With a less amenable text than he had in previous adaptations from the stage, Altman shows the same restraint and intelligence in translating the material to the screen. The play was set in a single motel room; on screen Altman creates the whole motel complex — menacing with its shadowy corners, junky buildings, garish neon, car-wrecks and faceless guests shuffling about their own mysterious business. The main characters roam the place like caged animals, cautiously spying on one another when they are not engaged in active conflict.

Altman's work is at its most intriguing in the flashbacks that

Plain Jane and pianist princess: Charlotte Gainsbourg (left) and Clothilde Baudon in *An Impudent Girl*

illustrate the last-act revelatory monologues. The images are at ways slightly in contradiction to the words, enhancing the unsettling sense of deception, intended or not, that underlies the whole piece. This weekend the National Film Theatre presents a wholly unprecedented event — a debate on post-Solidarity Poland as witnessed by the national cinema. Three directors will appear to present and discuss their films, which express opposed views of the country after the traumas of Solidarity and martial law. The event has been organized with the imaginative cooperation of the official Polish Cultural Institute in London. In the Solidarity period Polish

cinema developed a power and a determination, to articulate national concerns, that have very evidently not been wholly silenced. Krzysztof Kieslowski's *No End*, made in 1984, is as uncompromising in its demands for public honesty and its despair at the prevailing social atmosphere as anything made before martial law. The hero of the film (played, significantly, by Jerzy Radziwiłowicz, the star of *Wajda's Man of Marble* and *Man of Iron*) explains at the outset that he died of a heart-attack before the events we are watching took place. Now he is a spectral observer of the aftermath of his own death, occasionally intervening benevolently.

A well-trying old warhorse, *La Cage aux folles* is now flogged on to a second sequel. *La Cage aux folles III — The Wedding*, five years after the first. This time it has taken an army of scriptwriters to come up with a signally feeble idea for further adventures for the odd couple and their gay night-club in St Tropez. In order to qualify for a legacy, badly needed to salvage the *Cage aux folles*, the ladylike Albin (Michel Serrault) has to marry and procreate within a specified period. Serrault and Ugo Tognazzi soldier gallantly on together notwithstanding the script. The director was Georges Lautner.

David Robinson

Opera

Fidelity above all to the music

Fidelio
Covent Garden

It is too soon for the obituaries. Sir Colin Davis has chosen to take leave of the Royal Opera House not with a sunset memorial but with something new, vital and searching: a production of *Fidelio* in which Andrei Serban's staging honours a conductor by looking always out to the music. And Sir Colin, keenly ready to take up the challenge, himself honours the composer by his performance.

What we have is a production that tackles the work on its own ground: not as an opera, more as a dramatic symphony illuminated by scenic images. And that is the

supreme virtue of this remarkably original production, that it makes the stage always secondary to the score, even if that means, as it does mean, much incoherence and some puzzlement in what we see.

The great achievement of Mr Serban's previous production for the company, *Turandot*, was to create a perfectly appropriate place for the work: a theatre within the theatre. Here his procedure is exactly opposite, to deny the stage argument any stable identity. We begin, significantly, with the stage listening to the pit. Leonore enters in silence, completes her costume as Fidelio, and then stands stock-still to hear the overture. The action takes place within a whitewashed cubicle of brickwork, which provides a neutral environment for a range of treatment from the very direct to the utterly abstract.

Examples of the former style abound particularly at the start, in the behaviour of Jaquino; Marzelline and Rocco. There are even a few naturalistic props, though those gradually slip away, and they are never enough to establish any illusion of reality; rather the business between the young lovers, and Rocco's "gold" aria (with bags duly turning up all over the place), are done with wit, distance and stylish exaggeration as quotations of naturalism. It is rather the same with the treatment of Pizarro, who is a pantomime demon king without quite reaching the absurdity that might imply again, his dramatic appearance provides a colour to make an apt fit with the music.

Where another colour is required, Mr Serban is happy to make a sudden change. Pizarro sings his aria right from the front of the stage, with black drapes behind, whereas the orchestral introduction to it has been interpreted by white, shaven-headed prisoners and black-uniformed guards in one of this production's many very effective passages of choral mime. Moreover this world of evil oppression good has been suggested, glimpsed through doorways, right from the start.



Totally sympathetic: Gwynne Howell, Elizabeth Connell

so that the opening scene is not as innocent as it usually is but already played out under threat. Or else music might indicate a sudden switch from the concrete to the abstract, as happens for the first scene's quartet. Leonore rushes on, and then there is immediately a black-out. The four figures separate to take up stationary positions for the musical number, returning afterwards, during another black-out, to their original huddle. This is a highly successful solution to a notable problem, though it would be even better without the floating cut-out motifs initiated from Blake, which seem excessively didactic: cues to a meaning that is perfectly apparent and an odd bit of superfluity in a production that generally trusts the music.

Having said that, though, I at once think of the finale, which very evidently divided opinion on Wednesday night, and no doubt will go on doing so. Let me say at once that I counted it an almost total success, shocking though it is. Sir Colin leads up to the last scene by giving a buoyant account of the third Leonore overture, which, following Furtwängler, Mr Serban treats as a recapitulation of the opera so far, but he does so obliquely, in a mime for children beautifully choreographed by Kate Platt. Then the walls of the box fall away for another sublime choral tableau, but one with curious apparitions in the distance. The Minister is a Roman emperor in buskins, carrying a standard that is at once the scales of justice and the Cross of Christ. Further back are

Teseo
Sadler's Wells

Those with exceptionally good memories, or else vested interest in the English Bach Festival, may remember that my enjoyment of their *Teseo* at Covent Garden a year ago was a little less than complete. Tom Hawkes provides the EBF with a production in which contemporary Handelian convention is all: minutely studied baroque gesture, massively luxurious costumes of swishing silk with plumes which fan the air, and chandeliers which remain whether the scene be a Palladian *trompe-l'oeil* perspective, an Arcadian grove or the jaws of Hell.

Last July, its musical and physical realization, rather than its concept, failed to

convince me. This time I can recommend you to get a ticket. In a performing style in which dramatic realism is irrelevant, attention is focused overwhelmingly on the writing. And, with a stronger and happier cast of singers and the concentration of Sadler's Wells' smaller space, such close attention is now adequately repaid.

I cannot go into the plot again: it is one of those whose relationships work out best drawn with a pattern of arrows on a blackboard. Suffice it to say that Agathe (the nice one) is now sufficiently under the skin of Marilyn Hill Smith for the rapture to be released in her Act IV duet of temporary reprieve with her beloved Teseo (Heleen Walker). Penelope Walker, who was quite the best part of the evening last time round, has honed her dark, alto Arcane (the youth in

the sub-plot) to duet most mellifluously with the orchestra's woodwind soloists. Her Act III arias, two in quick succession, are performed with a continuity of vocal and physical ornament which is sheer delight.

What really vindicates the production's musical and dramatic credibility, though, are the performances of the new Medea and Eggo. Both Claire Primrose and Michael Chance grasp Handel's writing and pack every scrupulously-observed detail and indication of it with live, ever-changing response: she in her green-eyed jealousy, he in his golden kingship.

Nicholas Cleobury directs both pit and stage with lucid, entirely idiomatic and stylish vigour.

Hilary Finch

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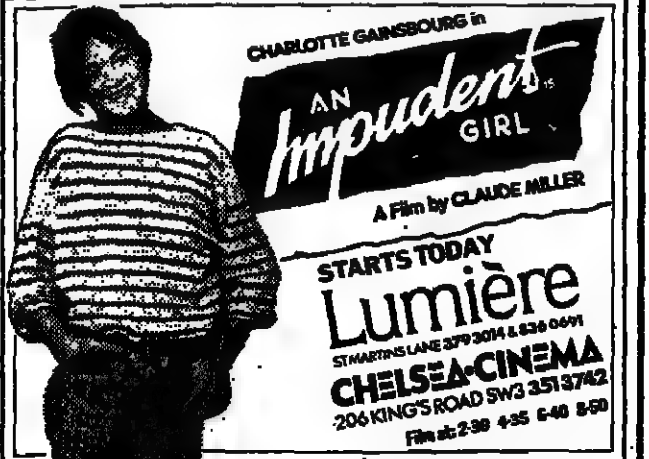
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Stately Queen pays homage to Lady Liberty

From Michael Binyon, on board the QE2, New York Harbour

An armada of little ships swept before us as the stately Queen, draped with a 100 ft American flag, glided under the Verrazano Bridge into New York harbour early yesterday morning to pay homage to the Statue of Liberty.

With more than a thousand Chrysler super-salesmen on board, lucky winners of a dealership competition, the ship symbolically recalled Cunard's role in bringing more than two million immigrants to America since 1840. It brought with it a family of

Symbolism milked for all its worth

Polish immigrants, who, like the generations of huddled masses America is now honoring, were themselves fleeing political persecution in their native land.

The ship bore to before the world's most famous statue. After a reading of Emma Lazarus's poem inscribed on the statue's pedestal, and the playing of the British, French and American national anthems, the ship blew a long, deep blast and the Queen saluted the Lady.

Passengers tossed a cascade of carnations overboard, a cloud of red, white and blue balloons floated aloft, and a fire boat blew jets of equally patriotic coloured water into the air.

Symbolism was milked for all it was worth, and the QE2 did very nicely. ABC television beamed the first live broadcast from a moving ship, to begin the four-day extravaganza of media hype.

Chrysler, for a reported fee of \$6 million (£3.7 million) has chartered the QE2 for 10 days — and Mr Lee Iacocca, its ebullient chairman, who, like his lucky dealers has more than fulfilled his plan in raising more than \$260 million for the statue's restoration, will stay on board during the celebration.

The Poles, paraded, photographed and interviewed, were a trifle overwhelmed, but Mr

Ryszard Olesiak, a Solidarity activist, and his wife Magdalena had it easier than their forebears — plucked from an Athens transit centre, sponsored by the United Methodist Committee for Relief, brought in first-class style to New York via Southampton and Bermuda, and greeted by a Methodist bishop on arrival.

They suffered none of the trembling uncertainty their ancestors knew as they neared Ellis Island, now shrouded in scaffolding as it undergoes rebirth as a memorial to America's ethnic heritage.

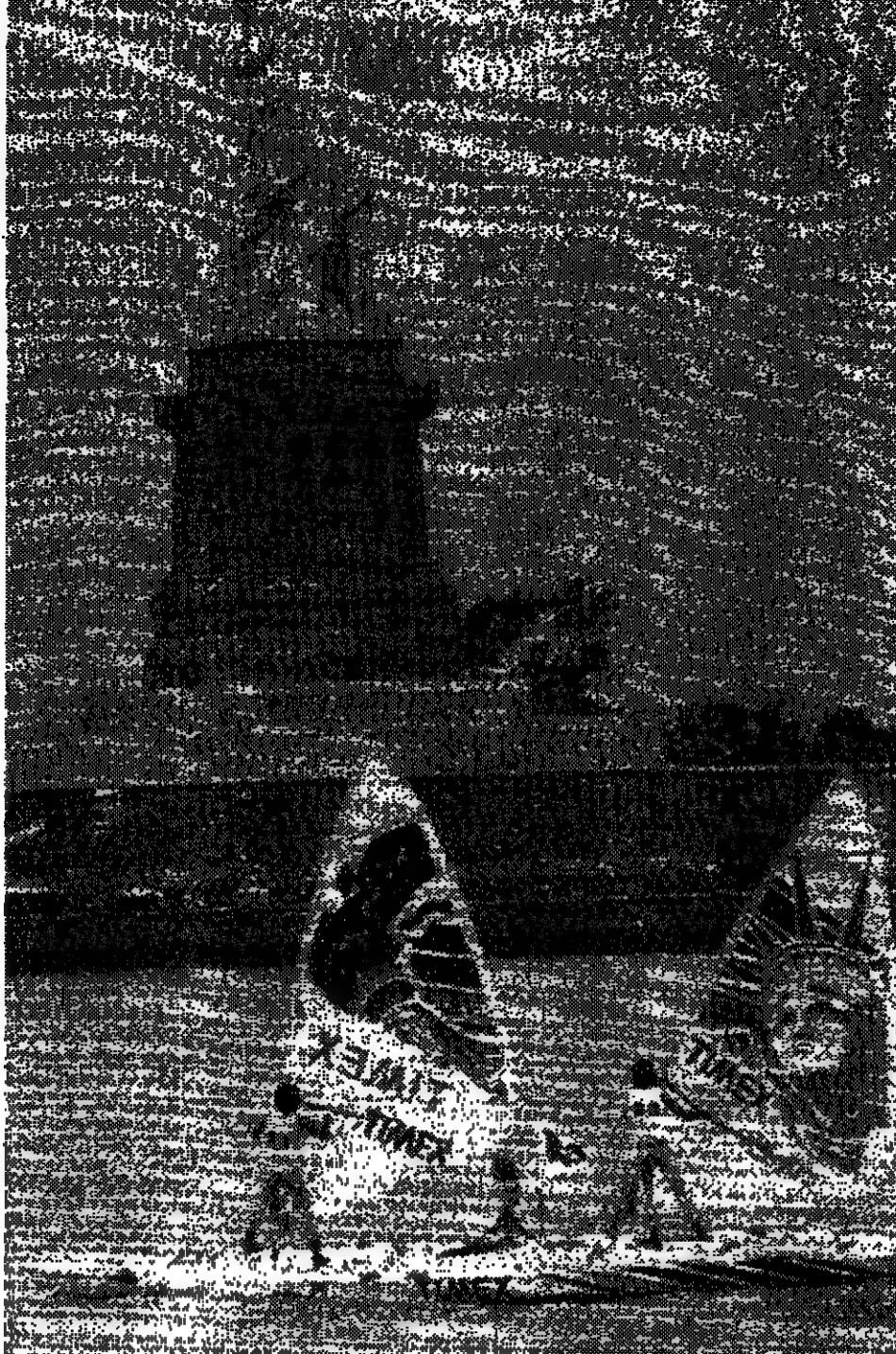
Ryszard and Magdalena stuttered a few well-rehearsed lines about being "very happy". After such an introduction, the American dream will seem rather flat for them in York, Pennsylvania, where they are to settle.

The flotilla of boats grew ever larger as the Queen slowly cruised round the harbour, past the stadium of

More and more boats — barks, sloops, barges, launches, junks, cruisers for the opulent, and tall ships with their immaculate sails and billowing sails, filled up the harbour, thousands upon thousands.

On land, the tourists gathered. Manhattan was jammed with sightseers from all America and beyond — including an unusually large number of French, here to bask in the memory of their country's gift and President Mitterrand's presence.

Lady Liberty was everywhere — in foam-rubber headbands, plaster effigies, in shop windows, on T-shirts, photographic backdrops, and of course outside the Kilt Kat Club in Times Square, though undoubtedly wearing more clothes than the hostesses inside.



French windsurfer sailing past the Statue of Liberty at the end of a 5,000-mile transatlantic voyage. The three set off in January from Dakar, Senegal, and sailed unescorted to the French West Indies before sailing through the Caribbean to Miami Beach and New York.

£300 m boost for London hospitals

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

A large cash boost to cut waiting lists at hospitals in London is to be announced soon by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services.

The move, part of Mr Fowler's campaign to restore confidence in the National Health Service, is included in a package which will also provide more money for recruiting consultants.

Conservative backbenchers have been told that a substantial package is being prepared for announcement before the summer recess.

But their hopes that it could be as high as £500 million will not be fulfilled, according to government sources last night. The figure is likely to be nearer £300 million.

The aim is cut the queues for operations such as hip

joint replacements and hernias.

Mr Fowler has been persuaded by a rising tide of complaints that more money must be spent on a direct attack on waiting lists.

The Treasury, taking a lead from Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who has made improvements in the education and health services her priorities in the run-up to the next election, is prepared to allow limited increases in spending in both areas.

Tory MPs took to Mrs Thatcher their complaints about the way health funds have been allocated to the regions often at the expense of the capital, and Mr Fowler has just completed his review of Mr Fowler has been carrying out a study of where the main delays are with the aim of increasing resources there.

Miners to meet on job fears

By Ronald Faux

Miners at the Bilston Glen and Monktonhall collieries near Edinburgh are to hold mass meetings today after rumours that British Coal is to demand another 1,000 redundancies from the Scottish Area work force.

The two pits supply a large part of their production to the South of Scotland Electricity Board, which is reported to be planning a cut of more than 1 million tonnes a year in its coal burn.

The Scottish Area of British Coal refused to confirm or deny the stories yesterday. An official said that after meetings between the Scottish NUM and coal board management it was agreed that no statements will be made.

Scottish Labour MPs yesterday demanded an emergency debate in the Commons. Mr John Home Robertson, Labour MP for East Lothian, said that the cut in coal burn was probably the equivalent of the production from one colliery and he criticized decisions about the future of coal being made on the basis of artificially low oil prices.

European budget 'illegal'

Continued from page 1

know whether we are over the hill, or whether we are running into the worst crisis in the EEC's history.

Meanwhile, Mr Christophersen has proposed a supplementary 1986 budget of £1.45 billion to cope with extra farm-policy spending and a £315 million cut in Britain's contribution, an automatic reflection of the budget deal won by Mrs Margaret Thatcher to compensate for excessive British payments.

But combined with the court ruling it will save Britain a total of £105 million in 1986, while other nations are forced to pay more.

The supplementary budget may be whittled down during the negotiations, but fear of a crippling crisis if they fail is expected to prevent any attempt to reduce the British rebate.

● LONDON: Mrs Thatcher yesterday welcomed the ruling. She has always been opposed to an extension of the Parliament's powers (Sheila Gunn writes).

Music for the royal wedding chosen

Miss Sarah Ferguson will go up the aisle of Westminster Abbey to the strains of Edward Elgar's *Imperial March* when she and Prince Andrew are married on July 23.

The music for the choral service, chosen by the Prince and Miss Ferguson after discussions with Mr Simon Preston, the Abbey's Director of Music, was announced yesterday by Buckingham Palace.

The music will be under the general direction of Mr Preston, and will be performed by the choirs of the Abbey and the Children of the Royal Chapel, the Abbey's Director of Music, and by the trumpeters of the band of the Royal Marines School of Music.

The organists will be Mr Preston, who is Master of the Abbey's chorists, Mr Harry Bicket, the Abbey's sub-organist and Mr Geoffrey Morgan, the second assistant organist.

Works to be played as the congregation of 1,800 arrive include the Alleluia in D by John Stanley, Handel's *Magnificat*, Purcell's *Trumpets, Toms and Drums*, and the *Te Deum* by J S Bach's "Nun freut sich, lieben Christen g'mein" and Handel's *Water Music*.

Miss Ferguson will be preceded at the Abbey's Great West door with a fanfare by the Royal Marines trumpeters.

The motet "We wait for Thy loving kindness O God" by William McKie will be sung by the choirs of the Abbey and the Chapel Royal, and the anthem "Set me as a Seal Upon Thine Heart" by William Walton, will be sung unaccompanied by the two choirs.

The National Anthem will be performed by the Royal Marines trumpeters, the organ and choirs.

Two Mozart anthems will be sung during the signing of the registers: "Laudate Dominum", sung by Felicity Lott, the soprano, and "Exultate Jubilate", by Arleen Auger, the American soprano. The couple will leave the Abbey to the *Triumphal March* from Edward Elgar's *opera Caractacus*, and *Crown Imperial* by Walton.

Today's events

Royal engagements
Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, on behalf of The Queen, presents Colours to the 1st Battalion 5th Highland Volunteers, North Inch, Perth, 11.30.

The Prince of Wales, President, Business in the Community, opens the Deptford Enterprise Agency, 146 Deptford High St, SE8, 10.30.

The Princess of Wales, Patron, The British Sports Association for the Disabled, receives three members of the 'Great British Push', Kensington Palace, 11.30; and as President of Dr Barnardo's, attends a Garden Party for Barnardo supporters and voluntary workers, Chatsworth House, Derbyshire, 12.45.

Prince Andrew, Patron of the Jubilee Sailing Trust, attends the naming ceremony of the STS

Lord Nelson, Vosper Thornycroft Yard, Southampton, 11.25.

Princess Anne visits RAF Henlow, Hitchin, Bedfordshire, 10.10; later, as Patron of the British School of Osteopathy, attends the annual presentation of awards, Institute of Civil Engineers, Great George St, SW1, 11.30.

Princess Margaret, President of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, opens the Child Protection Team's new units: 125 Oxford St, Preston, 3.45; and Wiltshire, Blackburn, 4.50.

The Duke of Gloucester presents the Keep Britain Tidy Group's Queen Mother's Birthday Awards, Guildhall, EC2, 2.25.

The Duke of Kent, Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, opens an exhibition on the History of Freemasonry, Freemasons' Hall, WC2, 12.

Princess Alexandra attends the Foundation Fund Concert of the Royal Philharmonic Society, Royal Albert Hall, SW7, 7.30.

State visit
The President of the Federal Republic of Germany and Frau von Weizsacker depart Buckingham Palace by car at the conclusion of the State Visit, 10.

New exhibitions
Kelms, Jewellery and Carvings from Central Asia: The Royal Albert Hall, SW7, 7.30.

Bath's Secret Gardens: photographs by Peter Woloszynski; National Centre of Photography, Milson St, Bath; Mon to Sun 9.30 to 5.30 (ends Aug 31).

Tapestries and Gardens by Olga Mackay and Helen Collinson; Coach House Gallery, Gower House, Padstow; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Aug 3).

Music
Concert by the Cotswold Savoyards: St Swithun's, Leam and Stanley, or Stonehouse, 7.30.

Piano recital by Craig Sheppard: Erin Arts Centre, Victoria Sq, Port Ex, 8.

Concert by the Halle Orchestra: Free Trade Hall, Manchester, 7.30.

Concert by the City of London Sinfonia: Birmingham Town Hall, 7.30.

Book Fair: Brewery Arts Centre, Kent, today 2 to 8, tomorrow 10 to 12.

Lichfield Festival: exhibitions, concerts, recitals and theatre, until July 13, for info tel (0543) 257298.

York Early Music Festival: today until July 13, for info tel (0904) 22123.

Anniversaries
Births: Jean Blanchard, balloonist, Les Andelys, France, 1753; Nathaniel Hawthorne, writer, Salem, Massachusetts, 1804; Giuseppe Garibaldi, Nice, 1807; Stephen Collins Foster, composer, Lawrenceville, Pennsylvania, 1826; Thomas Jefferson, 1826; Thomas Jefferson, 3rd President of the USA 1797-1801; Quincey, Massachusetts, 1826; Thomas Jefferson, 3rd President of the USA 1801-09; Monticello, Virginia, 1826; James Monroe, 5th President of the USA 1817-25, New York, 1831; Marie Curie, physicist, Nobel laureate 1903 and 1911, Hute Savois, 1943; Wladyslaw Szpilarski, prime minister of Poland 1922-23, Gibraltar, 1943.

Pollen count
The pollen count for London and the South-east issued by the Asthma Research Council at 10 am yesterday was 171 (very high). Forecast for today, similar. For today's recording call British Telecom's Weatherline: 01-246 8091, which is updated each day at 10.30 am.

Tower Bridge
Tower Bridge will be raised today at 11.10am, 3.50pm, 6.30pm and 9pm.

Food prices

Peaches from France and Italy are reasonably priced at 10p-30p each or kilo punnets at 95p to £1.20 each. Nectarines are slightly more expensive and there are superb pineapples from 65p to a £1 depending on size. Galia melons 70p to £1.50 each, honeydews 70p to £1.50 each and water melons, such good thirstquenchers, at 25p a pound. French Charantais melons have just arrived and are selling at 90p to £2 each.

New potatoes are getting cheaper with Jersey Royals now only 12p to 18p a pound and English 10p to 14p a pound. Other good vegetable buys are: courgettes 50p to 60p a pound, Hippi cabbage 15p to 25p a pound, Primo 15p to 30p a pound, and spring cabbage 18p to 30p a pound.

Salads are excellent with a wide selection of lettuces, round, iceberg, cos, crisp and web, 10p to 15p a head depending on variety. English and Dutch cucumbers 35p to 50p each, and superb hothouse and open-air tomatoes 45p to 60p a pound, beef 55p to 80p a pound, and cherry tomatoes 75p to £1 a half pound pack.

Fish supplies should be good everywhere and prices are probably a best buy. The average price of lemon sole is down 7p a pound and haddock 4p a pound. Dover sole is down about 13p a pound and sole and smoked haddock should also be cheaper. At Billingsgate rainbow trout and salmon are plentiful and down in price.

Parliament today
Commons (9.30): Consideration of Private Members' Bills.

Lords (11.1): Debate on South Africa.

Top Films

The top box-office films in London:

- 1 (1) A Room With A View
- 2 (2) Down And Out In Beverly Hills
- 3 (3) House
- 4 (4) The Money Pit
- 5 (5) 48 Weeks
- 6 (6) After Hours
- 7 (7) Jagged Edge
- 8 (8) Runaway Train
- 9 (9) Out Of Africa
- 10 (10) The Jewel Of The Nile

The top films in the provinces:

- 1 Down And Out In Beverly Hills
- 2 House
- 3 Fright Night
- 4 48 Weeks
- 5 The Jewel Of The Nile

Compiled by Screen International

The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	2.45	2.45
Canada \$	2.45	2.45
Denmark kr	11.11	11.11
France F	6.55	6.55
Germany DM	3.48	3.48
Greece Dr	218.00	218.00
Italy Lira	239.00	239.00
Japan Yen	239.00	239.00
Netherlands Gld	3.22	3.22
Norway Kr	11.11	11.11
Portugal Escudo	204.80	204.80
Spain Ptas	166.64	166.64
Sweden Kr	11.11	11.11
Switzerland Fr	2.48	2.48
USA \$	1.60	1.60
Yugoslavia Dinar	640.00	640.00

Prices for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC.

Financial Times Index: 3889

London: The FT index closed down 0.9 at 3887.

£250,000 bond
The winner of the £250,000 Premium Bond prize for July with number 13CS 492744 lives in Suffolk.

Weather

A trough of low pressure will cross the whole of the UK from the west during the day.

9am to midnight

London, SE, E, Central N, NE England, East Angles, Midlands: Cloudy with outbreaks of rain, becoming more moderate, brightening from the W later; wind SW moderate or fresh veering W moderate to strong at times, with coastal gales, becoming brighter from W; wind SW moderate or fresh veering W or NW; rain in the Midlands and South.

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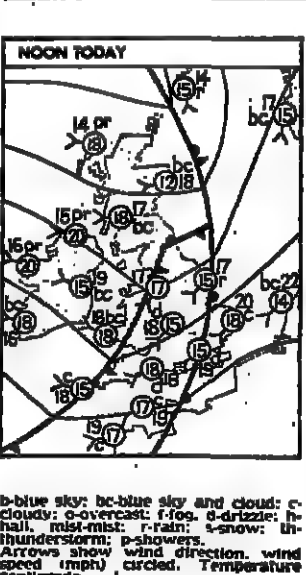
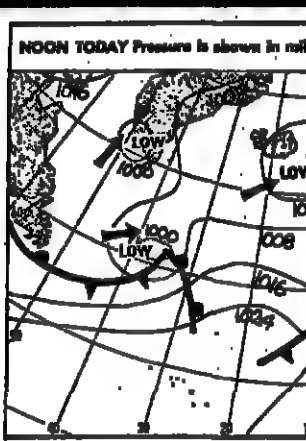
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Lighting up time
London 9.50 pm to 4.20 am
Edinburgh 10.10 pm to 4.05 am
Manchester 10.30 pm to 4.17 am
Penzance 10.04 pm to 4.49 am

Yesterday
Temperatures at midday yesterday: C, cloud; F, fair; S, sun.

London: 15.6 C, 60.1 F; Birmingham: 15.6 C, 60.1 F; Manchester: 15.6 C, 60.1 F; Edinburgh: 15.6 C, 60.1 F; Glasgow: 15.6 C, 60.1 F.

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London: 15.6 C, 60.1 F; Birmingham: 15.6 C, 60.1 F; Manchester: 15.6 C, 60.1 F; Edinburgh: 15.6 C, 6

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1365.7 (-0.9)
FT-SE 100
1656.2 (-0.5)
Bargains
25289
USM (Datastream)
125.95 (+0.45)
THE POUND
US Dollar
1.5455 (-0.02)
W German mark
3.3615 (-0.06)
Trade-weighted
76.2 (same)

Ferruzzi referred

The approach by Ferruzzi, the Italian agribusiness group, for the S&W Berisford commodities trading company was referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission yesterday. A proposed takeover of Berisford by Tate & Lyle is already under consideration by the commission.

Ferruzzi made the request for referral last week when it announced it was still seeking control of Berisford's British Sugar subsidiary. It now has a 23.7 per cent stake in Berisford, the majority of which was acquired in May from Hillsdown Holdings.

Davy Corporation, the process engineer, lifted pretax profits from £13.1 million to £16.3 million in the year to March 31. Turnover was up from £581 million to £594 million. The final dividend is 3.7p, taking the total to 4.8p, up from 3.7p.

Fitch up £3m
Fitch Lovell, the food manufacturer, lifted pretax profits from £16.3 million to £19.7 million in the year to April 26. Turnover was down from £463 million to £461 million, and the final dividend is 7p, taking the total to 10.5p, up from 9.7p.

Payoff raised
Lombard announced virtually unchanged pretax profits of £71.1 million for the six months to March 31. Turnover was down 1 per cent to £1.27 billion. The dividend is raised by 10 per cent to 4p net.

Surprise bid
USM-quoted Meadow Farm said it was thinking of making a surprise £3.1 million bid for North Devon Meat made by Hillsdown Holdings. The 120p-a-share bid from Hillsdown, which is being recommended by the North Devon board, is 47p above the earlier terms from Meadow Farm.

Morgan fall
Morgan Grenfell shares closed at 486p on their first day of trading yesterday having opened at 516p. The tender striking price was 500p. Market report, page 19

Thames ebbs
Thames Television had a more subdued session after going to a flat premium on Wednesday and finished with a 6p fall at 224p. County Bank, which handled the issue, is likely to protest about the delay by the Post Office in dispatching substantial numbers of allotment letters.

Team moves
Barclays de Zoete Wedd has acquired the swaps team of Mr Malcolm Wally. Mr Cameron McNeill, Mr Nigel Fox and Mr Jeremy Preddy from Shearson Lehman Brothers International.

Broker's view
Engineering group McKenna Brothers claimed it was winning its battle to fight off the £160 million unwanted takeover bid from Evered Holdings.

BAT sale
BATUS, the American retail arm of BAT Industries, has reached agreement on the sale of 77 of its 93 stores offered for sale. Growth so far this year at the stores BATUS is retaining, including Saks Fifth Avenue and Marshall Field's, is very encouraging, the company said.

Metals' 58%
Metals Exploration said it owns or has acceptances for almost 58 per cent of Hampton Gold Mining Areas, for which it is offering 150p a share.

'Reject bid'
Standard Chartered's third defence document, published today, urges holders to continue to reject Lloyds Bank bid and to elect to stay with an independent Standard Chartered Bank. Standard says that Lloyds' offer is "wholly unacceptable".

Lords ruling paves way for September TSB flotation

By Lawrence Lever

A September flotation of the Trustee Savings Bank appeared likely last night after the dismissal, by the House of Lords, of the challenges to the planned £1 billion flotation in the Scottish and English Courts. These legal challenges have delayed the flotation, which was originally planned for last February.

The Lords yesterday granted the TSB the declaration which it had previously sought in the High Court, that the TSB depositors were not entitled to the assets of the TSB over and beyond the return of their deposits plus interest.

The declaration stipulates that the depositors have "no present or future, actual or contingent, right, title or interest to or in the surplus assets of the Bank."

The Lords decision should end the legal challenge to the flotation. However, the solicitors acting for Mr James

Ross, the retired civil servant who mounted the original challenge in the Scottish Courts, and Dr John Vincent who brought the English action, indicated that an appeal to the European Court of Human Rights was not out of the question.

The TSB considers that such an approach is doomed to failure. A TSB spokesman said: "Our advice is that it would be unsuccessful. A petition to the European Court must demonstrate that something has been expropriated and the Lords made it clear today that this is not the case here."

The TSB made it clear last night that it would not foot the legal costs of any European challenge, as it has done to date, in the interests of procuring a swift resolution to the legal issues.

Sir John Read, chairman of the TSB, made it clear yesterday that he regarded the Lords



Sir John Read: "end of the legal process"

decision as marking "the end of the legal process." He said that the bank "will now discuss its immediate plans with the Treasury. No firm dates for the proposed flotation can be given until this has been done."

The Treasury must appoint a vesting day on which the Bank's assets will be transferred to a new holding company, as a prelude to the flotation.

Privately, the TSB is hoping for a September flotation which it hopes will attract one million small shareholders. It considers that a September date would be sufficiently in advance of the privatization of British Gas which is scheduled for the end of October.

The legal issue over the ownership of the TSB was sparked off by Mr James Ross, a retired civil servant and a TSB saver for more than 40 years, who was granted a declaration last October by the Lord Ordinary, Lord Davidson, that the TSB Scotland's assets belonged to its depositors.

This was overruled in March, while a parallel action in the High Court, brought by the Reverend John Vincent on behalf of English depositors in April was also unsuccessful.

Japan acts to halt dollar fall

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

The Bank of Japan intervened heavily in the foreign exchange markets yesterday to prevent a politically embarrassing fall for the dollar below 160 against the yen.

The elections to both houses of the Japanese parliament take place on Sunday, and the strength of the yen, and its effect on the economy, has become an important issue.

Japan's intervention, in Far Eastern trading, did not prevent the dollar from weakening in the London market.

It was saved from larger falls by the early closure of the New York foreign exchange market because of the Fourth of July holiday, and position of the dollar held at 161.40 against the yen, from 163.05 at the previous close.

The dollar has only once fallen below 160 yen in the post-war period, ending briefly below that level during May.

The expectation remains for a cut in the US discount rate - indeed there were strong market rumours yesterday that this had already been decided.

A fall of \$9,000 in US non-farm payroll employment last month confirmed the market's opinion that the economy is very weak and that the Federal Reserve Board will be required to act by cutting the discount rate.

The pound gained 90 points to \$1.5455. The sterling index was unchanged at 76.2.

Against the mark, the dollar fell by a penny to DM2.1750. Herr Karl Otto Pöhl, the Bundesbank president, said yesterday that he did not consider the mark to be too strong against the dollar.

Oppenheim claims control of Aitken

By Richard Lander

Mr Nick Oppenheim, the financier, yesterday claimed to have won control of the Aitken Hume financial services group after his all-paper £80 million offer received more than 50 per cent acceptance.

However, he met with the continued rejection of the bid by the Aitken board on the grounds that the company would lose its valuable American fund management group, NSR, if the takeover went ahead.

Aitken has maintained that a successful bid by Mr Oppenheim would lead to NSR changing hands and having to give up all its management contracts under United States law.

In a statement issued after Mr Oppenheim's Tranwood Group claimed 50.35 per cent acceptance, Aitken said eight of the nine independent NSR directors had said: "if Tranwood succeeds in its offer the independent advisers will recommend an alternative to NSR as adviser to all its mutual funds. This would result in Aitken Hume losing its principal asset."

An uncompromising stance to misleading advertisements appears likely to emerge from draft rules governing the advertising of investments which are expected from the Securities and Investments Board at the end of the month.

The rules will be issued as part of the conduct of business package which SIB is promulgating in anticipation of receiving the power to regulate investment businesses under the Financial Services Bill.

Among the key points of the SIB proposals will be the requirement for businesses which infringe the rules to publish retractions, and to offer investors their money back in the case of infringing off-the-page advertisements.

The rules, which have not yet been completed for publication, appear likely to insist that all advertisements state to which self-regulating organization the advertiser belongs.

They should also lay down strict criteria for financial projections which show the likely future performance of investments.

PEP boost for building societies

By Our City Staff

The Government is to introduce an amendment to the Building Societies Bill, which will allow the societies to market and manage the new Personal Equity Plan.

The amendment, by Mr Nigel Lawson in this year's Budget, will allow the societies to market and manage the new Personal Equity Plan.

Mr Stewart, the Economic Secretary to the Treasury, contained in a Parliamentary written answer yesterday, follows hard on the heels of the Government's decision to allow societies to offer personal pension schemes, which it announced in May.

"The Government believes that building societies have a potentially important role to play in encouraging the growth of wider share ownership under the Personal Equity Plan," Mr Stewart said yesterday.

Not all societies will, however, be able to take advantage of the new powers to promote PEP and carry out investment management services of the underlying investments. Societies with commercial assets of £100 million or more will be able to carry out both the marketing and investment management functions.

They will have to do so through a subsidiary of the society, which can either be wholly owned or in the form of a joint venture with another investment company.

Those with commercial assets below £100 million will be able only to market the PEP plan.

Investors in the PEP plan will not pay capital gains tax on shares within the plan while income on the shares will accrue tax-free.

The Building Societies Bill is now going through the Committee stage in the House of Lords and will become law in the first half of 1987.

The Bill introduces a wide range of liberalizing powers which will enable it to offer new services such as unsecured loans, money transmission services and overdraft facilities.

The proposal to include PEP within the societies' remit, should complement powers in the Bill enabling members of the public to buy and sell unit trusts and ordinary shares through societies.

Societies will also be able to act as estate agents, insurance brokers, and to a limited extent, will be able to offer conveyancing services.

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet
Markets shrug off gloomy portents

The latest upset for the Government's privatization programme, the postponement of the sell-off of the water authorities, was announced too late in the day to have much impact on financial markets. The question of whether there is any life left in the privatization programme after gas is now, more than ever, a valid one.

The Treasury maintains that the postponement of water will not cause a dent in privatization receipts, planned at £4.75 billion this year, and for each of the following two years. The question of pressure on the public sector borrowing requirement officially does not arise.

But, come the public spending battles of the autumn and the PSBR could re-emerge as a concern, in the same way that sterling M3 has caused furrowed brows in the past couple of months.

Yesterday, in the gilt market, such concerns were forgotten amid the hopes of cheaper money. After three sets of bad money supply figures, it is argued, next Tuesday's have to be good. Add in the prospect, notwithstanding Germany's refusal to join in, of lower interest rates worldwide, and the markets can see a very good chance of lower base rates before the month is out.

There were gains of as much as a point at the long end of the market, building on Wednesday's rises on the first day free of capital gains tax.

The Bank of England has gone as far as the Treasury will allow in hoisting the caution signals over base rates. If the momentum for lower rates builds, it may be hard to resist.

Indeed, for central bankers the world over, summer holidays will come as a welcome relief from the relentless pressure to cut interest rates. Karl Otto Pöhl, the Bundesbank president, looks capable of making it to the beach with his interest rates still intact. But for Paul Volcker, the chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board, the position is not so certain.

Another set of weak employment data yesterday added to doubts about the strength of the US economy, and served notice on the Fed that another discount rate cut is required. The US bond market took heart from this, helping an already sunny gilt market along.

The Bundesbank's promised good news at yesterday's press conference following the fortnightly council meeting was that monetary growth had come down to an annual rate of 65 per cent, but was still above the 3.5 to 3.5 per cent target range. As a result, Herr Pöhl saw no room for manoeuvre on interest rates.

On the day of the announcement of another set of sub-zero inflation numbers in Germany - the cost of living in June was 0.2 per cent down on a year earlier - this has the flavour of hairshirt economics taken to extremes. On the day that the French president, Jacques Chirac, announced the intention of abolishing exchange controls, Germany's caution begins to look overdue.

Consensus on gas
A consensus view is emerging in the run up to the £5 - £6 billion privatisation of British Gas (which there is no stopping) - albeit from two of the stockbrokers advising the Government. Yesterday's weighty document from James Capel follows a similar report from Wood Mackenzie in late May and makes equally cheering reading.

British Gas in an efficient, well-managed and successful business with an impressive track record and should provide an attractive investment opportunity, says the report. The BG board is strong and well-established and, unlike British Telecom, there has been no organisational dislocation in preparation for privatisation.

James Capel, with a timing advantage on the earlier study, is able to evaluate last month's details on the pricing formula and capital structure of the corporation. On a pro forma basis, the £2.5 billion of debt will mean net debt to shareholders funds of some 30 per cent, an acceptable level in comparison with other utilities and energy companies worldwide. Similarly the RPI-2 formula is deemed a realistic and achievable target for the future. "The overall effect is to protect consumers where necessary, but also to leave British Gas with considerable control over its own destiny."

The fall in oil prices is expected to have some short term impact on the business but on a longer view is largely neutral. Fuel oil may now be competing effectively in the industrial bulk heat market but British Gas's supply prices are linked to oil product prices and, with a one to two year lag, will follow them down.

British Gas will offer investors their first exposure to the UK's integrated gas industry. As a solid utility company, James Capel believes British Gas will help fill a gap in the market for high quality income stocks. That must surely mean a yield of above 7 per cent. The trouble for the Government is that British Gas is going to be a "people's share", with preferential allotments for customers and free shares for employees. And after British Telecom, "people shareholders" will inevitably be looking for a handsome capital gain as well.

Presenting the Saints
Savings Scheme.

The Scottish American Investment Company, or Saints as we know it, investors, has a scheme catering specially for private investors.

Managed by Stewart Ivory and Company, the Saints Savings Scheme makes it easier for both existing shareholders and new investors to accumulate Saints shares.

Thanks to the Scheme, you can invest with less trouble, and at lower cost, than if you were to buy the same shares on the Stock Market.

The Scheme has three options:

Regular Saving enables you to save regular amounts each month for investment in Saints shares (minimum amount £25 per month).

Dividend Reinvestment lets Saints shareholders reinvest their dividends, or those of any other public company, in Saints shares.

Occasional Savings and Gifts allow you to contribute lump sums for investment.

For the private investor Regular Saving is particularly attractive.

The Stock Market is volatile

and you may be tempted to buy too many shares at the top of the market.

On the other hand, when the market is weak, you may be discouraged from investing at a time when the greatest gains are possible.

Regular Saving will smooth out these extremes.

As for Saints performance, last year our share price rose by 31% (The FT-Actuaries All-Share Index rose by 15%).

We increased our dividend by 17% and the AITC Statistical Service placed us 6th out of 138 other investment trusts in terms of share price performance during the year. Since 1945 our share price has risen by 73 times and our dividend by 66 times.

By investing in Saints you can have a stake in an international portfolio of shares which also includes smaller and unquoted companies.

We also pay out quarterly dividends so that our investors can see the fruits of their investment more swiftly.

If you'd like to find out more about us, please complete the coupon.

Saints

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A wide range of computer appointments appears every Tuesday.

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STOCK MARKETS

New York
Dow Jones 1302.14 (+6.88)
Tokyo
Nikkei Dow 17891.8 (+21.88)
Hong Kong
Hang Seng 1757.58 (-2.83)
Amsterdam: Gen 291.0 (+2.0)
Sydney: AO 1135.8 (-13.9)
Frankfurt
Commerzbank 1906.9 (-13.0)
Brussels
General 697.77 (+17.06)
Paris: CAC 365.3 (+7.70)
Zurich
SKA Closing 521.00 (-3.70)
London closing prices Page 23

INTEREST RATES

London:
Bank Base: 10%
3-month Interbank 10-9%
3-month eligible bills: 9-9 1/2%
buying rate
Prime Rate 8.50%
Federal Funds 6 1/2%
3-month Treasury Bills 5.90-5.89%
30-year bonds 100 3/4-1 1/8

CURRENCIES

London:
£: \$1.5455
DM: 3.3615
SwF: 2.7324
FF: 10.7335
Yen: 240.44
Index: 76.2

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISER:
Beecham 443p (+10p)
Thom EM 484p (+10p)
Western Motor 225p (+22p)
Davy Corp 125p (+10p)
Jaguar 378p (+13p)
Chrysalis 183p (+10p)
Unilever 1780p (+40p)
Wiglafis 175p (+10p)
H Ingram 200p (+20p)
JET 438p (+13p)
Rapid Executive 333p (+10p)
CE Heath 552p (+12p)
Munteligh 920p (+15p)
De Beers 650p (+17p)

FALLS:

Bass 775p (-15p)
Sears & Roebuck 155p (-35p)
Bell Group 340p (-35p)
Willis Faber 428p (-15p)
Mercury Int 768p (-40p)
McKinnell 260p (-15p)
Deegan Holdings 725p (-22p)

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM \$342.50 PM \$343.85
Close \$343.75-344.25 (2222.00-2225.0)
New York:
Comex \$342.00-342.50

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Aug) \$10.40 bid (11.00)

France to lift most currency controls

Paris (AP-Dow Jones) — France is to lift most of its currency constraints shortly, M. Jacques Chirac, the French prime minister, said yesterday.

He made the announcement at a forum of business leaders but did not give a detailed picture of what measures the government plans to take.

Earlier, the trade minister M. Michel Noir alluded to an impending relaxation of



M. Jacques Chirac: Currency measures on the way

France's currency controls in a speech before the same forum. The measures, which are part of a plan to promote French export growth, were expected to be announced later.

Further easing of the controls also fits into the aim of the economics minister, M. Edouard Balladur, of removing all controls on commercial transactions before the end of this year.

Rough diamonds cut out highest sales level for six years

By Richard Lander

Sales of rough gem and industrial diamonds by the Central Selling Organisation (CSO), the cartel which markets about 80 per cent of diamonds sold around the world, surged to their highest level for six years in the first half of this year.

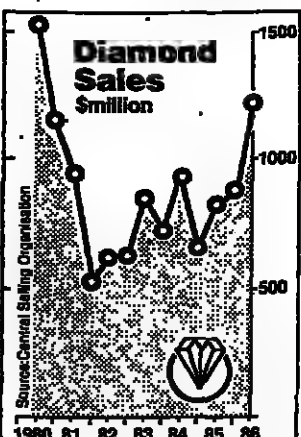
Figures released yesterday by the CSO, an arm of the South African De Beers group, showed sales amounted to \$1.214 billion (£809.333 million) in the half year, a rise of 23 per cent from the previous six-month period and 45 per cent higher than the first half of last year.

Sales last exceeded this figure in the first half of 1980, when they reached \$1.567 billion.

In rand terms, which reflect the profits feeding through to the De Beers accounts, sales totalled R2.710 billion (£711.286 million).

This was only 15 per cent above the second half of this year because of the rand's slight appreciation against the dollar so far this year, but 62 per cent higher than a year earlier.

Yesterday's figures provided further proof that the diamond market, which suf-



fered a severe slump in the early 1980s when investment demand collapsed, is building further on last year's strong recovery.

This year, De Beers announced that its huge diamond stockpile had finally stopped growing at about \$1.9 billion, while in April the CSO announced the first price rise in gem diamonds for three years.

In a speech to the World Diamond Congress in Tel Aviv last night, De Beers Chairman, Mr Julian Ogilvie Thompson, said that trade

stocks had at last fallen to suitable levels and that there had been a small reduction in the group's own stockpile and borrowing levels.

Trade stocks are now estimated to be at only a quarter of the level held six years ago.

Mr Ogilvie Thompson said: "We believe that stocks in the pipeline beyond us are now in a much sounder relation to retail turnover and that demand for rough diamonds from the CSO is now back in balance with present production for the first time in many years," he said.

He added: "We can therefore all look forward to the future with confidence."

Increased demand, which had been confined to larger sized, higher quality stones last year, had, he said, spread across the range of sizes and qualities, although a De Beers spokesman said there was still strong demand for diamonds weighing more than two carats.

The spokesman said retail sales had been strong in the United States, the biggest market, and had been helped elsewhere by the falling dollar which reduced prices in local currencies.

BES funds will be able to advertise

By Lawrence Lever

The Government has decided to amend the provisions of the Financial Services Bill to allow Business Expansion Scheme funds to advertise.

The amendment will be introduced at the standing committee stage in the House of Lords where the bill is scheduled to receive its second reading next Friday.

The decision follows representations by promoters of BES funds to officials at the Department of Trade and Industry, and concern at the ban on BES funds expressed by the Treasury, which pioneered the business expansion scheme, allowing individual tax relief on investments of up to £40,000 a year in qualifying unquoted companies.

As drafted, the provisions in the Bill relating to collective investment schemes stipulate that only authorized unit trusts can advertise, a structure which BES funds cannot adopt.

The Government, however, is planning to create a special regime for BES funds, allowing them to advertise while retaining their present structure.

The bill will also be amended to allow personal equity plans to be advertised.

Anglia Secure Homes comes to USM with £10m tag

By Alison Eadie



Peter Edmondson: plenty of scope for expansion

Anglia Secure Homes, the East Anglian builder of sheltered housing for the elderly, is coming to the Unlisted Securities Market with a capitalization of about £10 million.

Mr Peter Edmondson, Anglia's chairman, saw the need for sheltered housing while working as an estate agent in Frinton-on-Sea, Essex. Many couples retired to bungalows a few miles outside Frinton, but when, some years later, one partner died, the surviving partner was left stranded.

Mr Edmondson founded the company in September 1982 and quickly made a success of it. Taxable profits have risen from £20,000 in 1983 to £445,000 in 1985. Profits of £800,000 are forecast in the year to September

operation or planned, with a further four subject to being granted planning consent. It builds half its own schemes and contracts out the other half. It also does all the management of the complexes once they are occupied, as well as taking on management for other sheltered-housing developers.

Mr Edmondson believes there is plenty of scope for expansion, with the rising proportion of elderly in the population. He plans to move into advanced care — the stage beyond sheltered housing — as the proportion of the elderly rises to an estimated 1 million aged 85 and over by the end of the century.

The details of the placing, done through Cayer and Phillips & Drew, will be announced next week.

New businesses beat obstacles

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

New businesses set up under the Enterprise Allowance Scheme (EAS) are surviving despite lack of business experience and training, financial difficulties and competition from the black economy, London had the highest survival rate after one year's operation of 84 per cent.

This was the conclusion yesterday of the Small Business Research Trust after con-

ducting a survey. The EAS provides a weekly £40 allowance in lieu of social security benefits to encourage the jobless to start their own businesses.

Although the trust's survey was effectively an interim report on the EAS, it found many of those involved felt the allowance period should be extended beyond the present one year. They were

worried about the approaching 18-month danger point which tends to arise in the life of new businesses.

But a quarter of the businesses which had survived their first year were also sufficiently successful to have provided jobs for others.

Most of the new entrepreneurs seemed pleased with their new businesses, the trust found.

Latest jobless figures alarm US economists

New York (AP-Dow Jones) — The US economy remains weak and needs the stimulus of lower interest rates, economists said yesterday after the June unemployment figures were issued.

The economists were particularly alarmed at the non-farm payroll report — which showed a decline of 89,000 workers, another decline in manufacturing jobs and a decline in the manufacturing work week — rather than the civilian unemployment rate, which fell 0.2 percentage points to 7.1 per cent.

"If you get divergent messages, you should invariably rely on the payroll report," said Mr Charles Lieberman, director of financial markets research at Manufacturers Hanover Trust.

The payroll report is based on a survey of businesses, and is widely seen as more reliable than the jobless report, which is generated from a survey of households.

"The payroll report is a very decisive sign that there is cumulative weakness growing in the industrial sector of the economy," Mr Stephen Roach, senior economist at Morgan Stanley, said. "It is a source of major concern for those of us worried about the economy weakening."

Analysts said the June payroll report, regarded as the most important single monthly economic indicator, implied a decline in June industrial production and modest growth in personal income.

More importantly, it seriously cast doubts over prospects for a recovery in economic activity in the second half of the year.

The data will present one more reason for the Federal Open Market Committee to ease policy when it meets next week.

"The implication is that there is a need for another cut in the discount rate, and possibly even more than one," Mr Lieberman said.

The strike by 55,000 workers at AT&T, the huge telecommunications group, depressed the payroll report, the Labour Department said.

The department also revised down the growth in May non-farm payrolls to 125,000 from the 149,000 previously reported.

In the transportation and utilities sector of the payroll data, where telephone workers are categorized, June employment fell by 92,000.

Jobs in the goods-producing sector declined by 105,000 workers in June and service-sector job growth was 16,000. In manufacturing, jobs declined by 56,000, bringing to 160,000 the loss since the beginning of the year.

Among the key parts of the household survey, employment increased by 563,000 in June, following a gain of 218,000 in May.

Analysts said the big job gains in the household survey appeared to reflect high school and college students entering the market and finding summer jobs.

World Bank chief outlines strategy

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Mr Barber Conable, the new president of the World Bank, said alleviation of poverty will be the main business of the multilateral institution under his leadership.

He promised to redirect the bank and expressed his strong concern over the increasing "polarization of interests" which divided rich and poor nations.

He said he saw his role as one of co-ordination, drawing together the various interests, institutions, commercial banks and governments in a concerted drive to achieve sustainable growth in developing countries.

"We have a mutual dependence. It is in everyone's interest to achieve development goals which will reduce poverty which is of such strong concern," he said.

He acknowledged his lack of experience in both banking and development and said he would use the first months of his tenure to learn both the workings of the bank and the issues which face it as it assumes a greater role in resolving the debt crisis.

Mr Conable also said he expected to make structural changes at the bank which he hoped would be "an orderly

process". He said he did not have a grand scheme to change the internal structure of the bank. Mr Conable said he expected Japan's relationship with the bank to grow substantially as it sought new ways to recycle its huge trade surplus. Given the "light defence burden" Japan carried, Mr Conable said he envisaged a fuller participation in the collective "debt alleviation of the world" by Japan.

It could include in the future a special facility or funds financed by Japan to be held at the bank.

Mr Conable said the bank must have increased resources to carry out its new mission of making large adjustment loans designed to achieve growth in developing countries. He will request a general capital "increase from the bank's member nations, but he declined to specify the amount or timing.

He said timing in moving a request through the US Congress is all important.

Mr Conable said he did not agree with the rising number of proposals calling for large writedowns of debts in developing countries to allow them to return to a growth pattern.

Bremner vote delayed

A lively meeting of the Scottish stores group Bremner was adjourned yesterday until August 1 before shareholders could vote for the reappointment of Mr James Rowland-Jones as chairman.

His predecessor, Mr Michael Black, had promised to use his shareholding to vote against the resolution confirming the appointment of

Mr Rowland-Jones and two other colleagues. There has been a dispute about the running of the company and the heavy losses it has made.

Last night Mr Rowland-Jones said: "I am quite confident that the shareholders will want me to carry on. They have been very disturbed by what has taken place at this company."

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2. Next, gather relevant information and resources. This may include researching existing solutions, consulting experts, or collecting data.

3. Once the information is gathered, analyze it to identify the key factors and constraints. This step often involves breaking down the problem into smaller, more manageable parts.

4. Develop a plan or strategy to address the problem. This plan should outline the steps to be taken, the resources needed, and the expected outcomes.

5. Implement the plan and monitor progress. This involves putting the plan into action and regularly checking in to see how things are going.

6. Finally, evaluate the results and make adjustments as needed. This step involves comparing the actual outcomes to the expected ones and identifying any areas for improvement.

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Just a couple of examples of how, unobtrusively and efficiently, BET provides support services to its

Evidence of the success of these policies is reflected in the company's performance, and in its series of carefully chosen acquisitions.

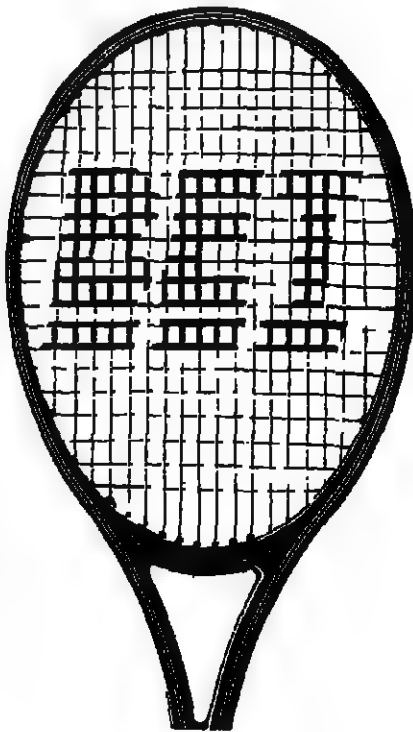
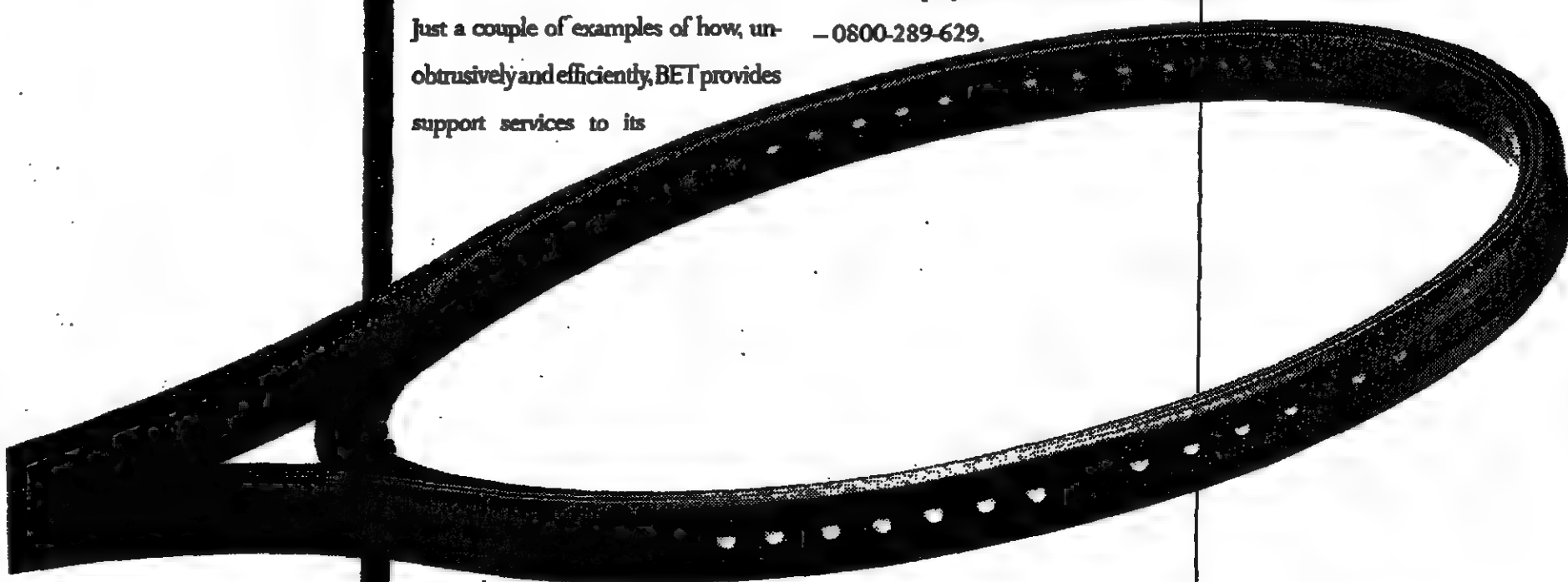
For more information about BET call our toll-free employee and shareholder line — 0800-289-629.

commercial, industrial and public-sector customers around the world.

In this way BET allows them to concentrate on what *they* do best.

BET is a tightly knit group of strategically related businesses aiming to provide the highest standards of service.

Meanwhile if you see any Wimbledon player wiping away the cares of the previous set on the sidelines — BET supplied the towel.



BET

ACE SERVICES

COMMODITIES

per kg lw			
p per kg est			
er kg lw			

LONDON MEAT FUTURES			
EXCHANGE			
Beef Contract			
	p. per kilo		
Month	Open		Close
Aug	183.0		183
Sept	182.6		182
			Vol

LONDON	
POTATO FUTURES	

Month	Open	Close
Nov	110.00	107.00
Feb	122.00	117.00
April	165.00	156.00
May	173.50	182.00
Nov	80.00	80.00

Vot: 20

FUTURES		report \$10 per index point range limits		
at	High/Low	Close		
at	Oct 96	579-573	Close	
at	Jul 96	698-647		
at	Jan 97	695-668		
at	Apr 87	748-745		
at	Oct 87			
at	Jan 88			
at	Jun 88			
at	Oct 88			
at	Jan 89			
at	Jun 89			
at	Oct 89			
at	Jan 90			
at	Jun 90			
at	Oct 90			
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at	Jun 93			
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at	Jan 94			
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at	Jun 96			
at	Oct 96			
at	Jan 97			
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at	Jan 98			
at	Jun 98			
at	Oct 98			
at	Jan 99			
at	Jun 99			
at	Oct 99			
at	Jan 00			
at	Jun 00			
at	Oct 00			
at	Jan 01			
at	Jun 01			
at	Oct 01			
at	Jan 02			
at	Jun 02			
at	Oct 02			
at	Jan 03			
at	Jun 03			
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at	Jan 14			
at	Jun 14			
at	Oct 14			
at	Jan 15			
at	Jun 15			
at	Oct 15			
at	Jan 16			
at	Jun 16			
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at	Jun 17			
at	Oct 17			
at	Jan 18			
at	Jun 18			
at	Oct 18			
at	Jan 19			
at	Jun 19			
at	Oct 19			
at	Jan 20			

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

United States	18.90-19.10	m/e
United Kingdom	1.48-1.50	m/e
Kuwait dirham	0.4480-0.4520	
Malaysian dollar	0.0513-0.0571	
Argentine peso	89-110	
New Zealand dollar	2.91-3.13	
Saudi Arabia riyal	3.70-5.51-10	
Singapore dollar	0.68-0.70	
South Africa rand	3.9812-3.9930	
Israeli sheqel	6.5905-6.6025	

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

England	1.3970-1.4900	
Singapore	2.1890-2.1870	
Malaysia	2.5180-2.2530	
Australia	2.628-2.5340	
Canada	1.5785-1.5762	
Sweden	7.0590-7.0570	
Denmark	7.462-7.461	
Germany	0.0480-0.0519	
West Germany	2.1715-1.731	
France	2.4335-2.4450	
Netherlands	6.6775-6.6925	
Italy	168.15-161.35	
Japan	149.25-149.00	
Switzerland	45.44-45.40	
Hong Kong	7.5095-7.5100	
Portugal	200.00-148.70	
Spain	138.75-138.55	
Australia	15.30-15.22	

1988

Year	Low	High	Price	Chg	Prev
1978	84	115	75	+	28
1979	63	103	75	+	28
1980	53	93	75	+	28
1981	53	93	75	+	28
1982	53	93	75	+	28
1983	53	93	75	+	28
1984	53	93	75	+	28
1985	53	93	75	+	28
1986	53	93	75	+	28
1987	53	93	75	+	28
1988	53	93	75	+	28
1989	53	93	75	+	28
1990	53	93	75	+	28
1991	53	93	75	+	28
1992	53	93	75	+	28
1993	53	93	75	+	28
1994	53	93	75	+	28
1995	53	93	75	+	28
1996	53	93	75	+	28
1997	53	93	75	+	28
1998	53	93	75	+	28
1999	53	93	75	+	28
2000	53	93	75	+	28
2001	53	93	75	+	28
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2003	53	93	75	+	28
2004	53	93	75	+	28
2005	53	93	75	+	28
2006	53	93	75	+	28
2007	53	93	75	+	28
2008	53	93	75	+	28
2009	53	93	75	+	28
2010	53	93	75	+	28
2011	53	93	75	+	28
2012	53	93	75	+	28
2013	53	93	75	+	28
2014	53	93	75	+	28
2015	53	93	75	+	28
2016	53	93	75	+	28
2017	53	93	75	+	28
2018	53	93	75	+	28
2019	53	93	75	+	28
2020	53	93	75	+	28
2021	53	93	75	+	28
2022	53	93	75	+	28
2023	53	93	75	+	28
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2025	53	93	75	+	28
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2123	53	93	75	+	28
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2125	53	93	75	+	28
2126	53	93	75	+	28
2127	53	93	75	+	28
2128	53	93	75	+	28
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2212	53	93	75	+	28
2213	53	93	75	+	28
2214	53	93	75	+	28
2215	53	93	75	+	28
2216	53	93	75	+	28
2217	53	93	75	+	28
2218	53	93	75	+	28
2219	53	93	75	+	28
2220	53	93	75	+	28
2221	53	93	75	+	28
2222	53	93	75	+	28
2223	53	93	75	+	28
2224	53	93	75	+	28
2225	53	93	75	+	28</

90.63	90.68	1283
90.64	90.68	352

27	Berry	25	+
28	Bryant	25	+
29	Byrd	25	+
30	Byrd for Senate Sec	25	+
31	Byrd for Senate	25	+
32	Byrd	25	+
33	Byrd	25	+
34	Byrd	25	+
35	Byrd	25	+
36	Byrd	25	+
37	Byrd	25	+
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88	Byrd	25	+
89	Byrd	25	+
90	Byrd	25	+
91	Byrd	25	+
92	Byrd	25	+
93	Byrd	25	+
94	Byrd	25	+
95	Byrd	25	+
96	Byrd	25	+
97	Byrd	25	+
98	Byrd	25	+
99	Byrd	25	+
100	Byrd	25	+

Charge	div	Ytd	P/E	15
per cent		%		High

[illegible]

	99	00	01	02	03
Real Growth	100.0	171.90	+1.5

[illegible]

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Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Alcan	Chemicals	1.50
2	BP	Oil	1.50
3	British Airways	Air	1.50
4	British Telecom	Telecom	1.50
5	British Petroleum	Oil	1.50
6	British Steel	Steel	1.50
7	British Sugar	Sugar	1.50
8	British United	Insurance	1.50
9	British Water	Water	1.50
10	British Airways	Air	1.50
11	British Telecom	Telecom	1.50
12	British Petroleum	Oil	1.50
13	British Steel	Steel	1.50
14	British Sugar	Sugar	1.50
15	British United	Insurance	1.50
16	British Water	Water	1.50
17	British Airways	Air	1.50
18	British Telecom	Telecom	1.50
19	British Petroleum	Oil	1.50
20	British Steel	Steel	1.50
21	British Sugar	Sugar	1.50
22	British United	Insurance	1.50
23	British Water	Water	1.50
24	British Airways	Air	1.50
25	British Telecom	Telecom	1.50
26	British Petroleum	Oil	1.50
27	British Steel	Steel	1.50
28	British Sugar	Sugar	1.50
29	British United	Insurance	1.50
30	British Water	Water	1.50

Please be sure to take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

BRITISH FUNDS	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

SHORTS (Under Five Years)	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

UNDATED	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

INDEX-LINKED	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

BANKS DISCOUNT HP	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

ELECTRICALS	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

DRAPERY AND STORES	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

CINEMAS AND TV	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

CHEMICALS AND PLASTICS	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

HOTELS AND CATERERS	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

INDUSTRIALS A-D	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

FOODS	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

FINANCE AND LAND	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

BUILDINGS AND ROADS	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

INSURANCE	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

LEISURE	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

MINING	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

SHOES AND LEATHER	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

TEXTILES	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

TOBACCO	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Equities mark time

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began June 30. Dealings end next Friday. \$Contango day July 14. Settlement day July 21.

\$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
125.10	124.80	British Airways	125.10	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
124.80	124.50	British Telecom	124.80	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
124.50	124.20	British Petroleum	124.50	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
124.20	123.90	British Steel	124.20	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
123.90	123.60	British Sugar	123.90	+0.30	+0.24	15.5

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
123.60	123.30	British United	123.60	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
123.30	123.00	British Water	123.30	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
123.00	122.70	British Airways	123.00	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
122.70	122.40	British Telecom	122.70	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
122.40	122.10	British Petroleum	122.40	+0.30	+0.24	15.5

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
122.10	121.80	British Steel	122.10	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
121.80	121.50	British Sugar	121.80	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
121.50	121.20	British United	121.50	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
121.20	120.90	British Water	121.20	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
120.90	120.60	British Airways	120.90	+0.30	+0.24	15.5

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
120.60	120.30	British Telecom	120.60	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
120.30	120.00	British Petroleum	120.30	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
120.00	119.70	British Steel	120.00	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
119.70	119.40	British Sugar	119.70	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
119.40	119.10	British United	119.40	+0.30	+0.24	15.5

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
119.10	118.80	British Water	119.10	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
118.80	118.50	British Airways	118.80	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
118.50	118.20	British Telecom	118.50	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
118.20	117.90	British Petroleum	118.20	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
117.90	117.60	British Steel	117.90	+0.30	+0.24	15.5

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
117.60	117.30	British Sugar	117.60	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
117.30	117.00	British United	117.30	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
117.00	116.70	British Water	117.00	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
116.70	116.40	British Airways	116.70	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
116.40	116.10	British Telecom	116.40	+0.30	+0.24	15.5

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
116.10	115.80	British Petroleum	116.10	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
115.80	115.50	British Steel	115.80	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
115.50	115.20	British Sugar	115.50	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
115.20	114.90	British United	115.20	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
114.90	114.60	British Water	114.90	+0.30	+0.24	15.5

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
114.60	114.30	British Airways	114.60	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
114.30	114.00	British Telecom	114.30	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
114.00	113.70	British Petroleum	114.00	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
113.70	113.40	British Steel	113.70	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
113.40	113.10	British Sugar	113.40	+0.30	+0.24	15.5

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
113.10	112.80	British United	113.10	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
112.80	112.50	British Water	112.80	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
112.50	112.20	British Airways	112.50	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
112.20	111.90	British Telecom	112.20	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
111.90	111.60	British Petroleum	111.90	+0.30	+0.24	15.5

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
111.60	111.30	British Steel	111.60	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
111.30	111.00	British Sugar	111.30	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
111.00	110.70	British United	111.00	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
110.70	110.40	British Water	110.70	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
110.40	110.10	British Airways	110.40	+0.30	+0.24	15.5

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
110.10	109.80	British Telecom	110.10	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
109.80	109.50	British Petroleum	109.80	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
109.50	109.20	British Steel	109.50	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
109.20	108.90	British Sugar	109.20	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
108.90	108.60	British United	108.90	+0.30	+0.24	15.5

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
108.60	108.30	British Water	108.60	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
108.30	108.00	British Airways	108.30	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
108.00	107.70	British Telecom	108.00	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
107.70	107.40	British Petroleum	107.70	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
107.40	107.10	British Steel	107.40	+0.30	+0.24	15.5

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
107.10	106.80	British Sugar	107.10	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
106.80	106.50	British United	106.80	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
106.50	106.20	British Water	106.50	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
106.20	105.90	British Airways	106.20	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
105.90	105.60	British Telecom	105.90	+0.30	+0.24	15.5

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
105.60	105.30	British Petroleum	105.60	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
105.30	105.00	British Steel	105.30	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
105.00	104.70	British Sugar	105.00	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
104.70	104.40	British United	104.70	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
104.40	104.10	British Water	104.40	+0.30	+0.24	15.5

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
104.10	103.80	British Airways	104.10	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
103.80	103.50	British Telecom	103.80	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
103.50	103.20	British Petroleum	103.50	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
103.20	102.90	British Steel	103.20	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
102.90	102.60	British Sugar	102.90	+0.30	+0.24	15.5

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
102.60	102.30	British United	102.60	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
102.30	102.00	British Water	102.30	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
102.00	101.70	British Airways	102.00	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
101.70	101.40	British Telecom	101.70	+0.30	+0.24	15.5
101.40	101.10	British Petroleum	101.40	+0.30	+0.24	15.5

1986 High	Low
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APPOINTMENTS

Associated Furniture Holdings: Mr Arnold Edward has been named chairman.

Debenham, Tewson & Chinnocks: Mr Peter J Brithwaite, Mr Peter W Hill and Mr Mark D Struckett have become partners.

Prudential Portfolio Managers: Mr Michael Geary and Mr Paul Brooks have been named assistant directors with responsibility for the day-to-day running of Pruventure.

Morgan Grenfell Laurie: Mr Andrew Hart, Mr Peter Robinson, Mr Mark Garney and Mr Guy Boyer have been named associate directors.

Century Factors: Mr Sandy MacGill has become sales director.



Mr P P C Gregory

Ben Lyon, who will remain a non-executive director. Mr Corben will remain chief executive.

The Victoria Wine Company: Mr Graham Maguire has

been named operations director and Mr Roger Scott services director.

Booker: Mr Lowell Heskins and Mr Edward C Robinson have become executive directors.

Vestric: Mr Rees Thomas has been named operations director, with Mr Frank Murphy as administration and services director and Mr Christopher Rawstron as purchase director.

United Friendly Insurance: Mr J R Ramey has been appointed chairman in succession to Mr P J Williams. Mr RE Ralston has been named managing director, with Dr GPR Mack as financial director.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

1986 High Low Company Price Chg Vol % P/E					1986 High Low Company Price Chg Vol % P/E					1986 High Low Company Price Chg Vol % P/E											
15	11	A & M Co	127	0.6	4.8	11.6	97	85	Freshwater	85	0.7	2.1	15.1	143	85	PCT	138	0.5	4.8	3.5	15.2
16	12	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	98	86	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	144	86	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
17	13	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	99	87	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	145	87	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
18	14	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	100	88	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	146	88	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
19	15	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	101	89	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	147	89	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
20	16	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	102	90	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	148	90	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
21	17	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	103	91	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	149	91	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
22	18	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	104	92	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	150	92	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
23	19	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	105	93	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	151	93	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
24	20	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	106	94	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	152	94	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
25	21	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	107	95	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	153	95	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
26	22	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	108	96	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	154	96	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
27	23	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	109	97	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	155	97	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
28	24	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	110	98	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	156	98	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
29	25	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	111	99	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	157	99	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
30	26	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	112	00	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	158	00	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
31	27	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	113	01	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	159	01	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
32	28	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	114	02	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	160	02	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
33	29	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	115	03	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	161	03	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
34	30	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	116	04	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	162	04	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
35	31	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	117	05	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	163	05	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
36	32	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	118	06	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	164	06	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
37	33	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	119	07	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	165	07	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
38	34	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	120	08	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	166	08	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
39	35	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	121	09	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	167	09	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
40	36	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	122	10	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	168	10	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
41	37	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	123	11	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	169	11	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
42	38	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	124	12	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	170	12	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
43	39	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	125	13	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	171	13	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
44	40	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	126	14	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	172	14	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
45	41	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	127	15	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	173	15	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
46	42	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	128	16	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	174	16	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
47	43	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	129	17	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	175	17	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
48	44	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	130	18	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	176	18	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
49	45	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	131	19	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	177	19	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
50	46	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	132	20	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	178	20	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
51	47	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	133	21	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	179	21	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
52	48	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	134	22	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	180	22	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
53	49	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	135	23	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	181	23	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
54	50	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	136	24	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	182	24	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
55	51	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	137	25	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	183	25	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
56	52	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	138	26	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	184	26	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
57	53	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	139	27	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	185	27	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
58	54	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	140	28	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	186	28	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
59	55	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	141	29	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	187	29	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
60	56	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	142	30	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	188	30	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
61	57	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	143	31	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	189	31	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
62	58	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	144	32	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	190	32	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
63	59	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	145	33	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	191	33	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
64	60	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	146	34	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	192	34	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
65	61	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	147	35	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	193	35	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
66	62	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	148	36	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	194	36	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
67	63	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	149	37	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	195	37	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
68	64	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	150	38	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	196	38	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
69	65	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	151	39	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	197	39	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
70	66	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	152	40	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	198	40	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
71	67	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	153	41	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	199	41	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
72	68	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	154	42	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	200	42	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
73	69	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	155	43	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	201	43	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
74	70	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	156	44	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	202	44	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
75	71	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	157	45	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	203	45	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
76	72	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	158	46	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	204	46	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
77	73	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	159	47	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	205	47	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
78	74	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	160	48	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	206	48	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	10.7
79	75	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	161	49	J & S	120	0.1	3.1	10.7	207	49	J & S	120</				

PERSONAL

RENTALS

Restaurant Guide

Out of Town

In Town

unlawful

been completed for some time. The agreement between the two parties is a result of the fact that the figures in the accounts are not correct. The agreement is a result of the fact that the figures in the accounts are not correct.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE HELP The National Bariatric Association for the relief of patients in conditions of obesity. £200 grant for the purchase of a new chair. Donations please to the National Bariatric Association, c/o The Bariatric Association, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

GRAND CAROLINE of Northampton and Dr. David married 4th July 1941. Mrs. Caroline is now 75. Dr. David is now 74. They have three children and five grandchildren. They are celebrating their 45th wedding anniversary.

SERVICES

BREAKAWAY London's first and only professional service for the removal of unwanted items. We remove anything you don't want or need. We are professional, reliable and efficient. We are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

WANTED

WANTED - LAMPS Various styles and sizes. We are looking for a variety of lamps to add to our collection. If you have any lamps you are willing to sell, please contact us. We are based in London and are open to offers from all over the country.

FOR SALE

URGENT WINDMILL 1000 sq ft, 1000 sq ft, 1000 sq ft. This is a rare opportunity to purchase a large property in a prime location. The property is in excellent condition and is suitable for a variety of uses. It is available for sale at a very competitive price.

RESISTA CARPETS

SPECIAL OFFERS We are offering a special discount on all carpets. This is a great opportunity to save money on your next carpet purchase. The discount applies to all carpets, regardless of the material or the size. Contact us today to take advantage of this offer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cancer Together we can beat it. We are a charity dedicated to the fight against cancer. We are looking for people who are interested in helping us. We are open to all donations and are grateful for every contribution. We are based in London and are open to offers from all over the country.

Cancer Research Campaign

How near we are to the cure... depends on you. We are a charity dedicated to the fight against cancer. We are looking for people who are interested in helping us. We are open to all donations and are grateful for every contribution. We are based in London and are open to offers from all over the country.

LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND

43 Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JH We are a charity dedicated to the fight against leukaemia. We are looking for people who are interested in helping us. We are open to all donations and are grateful for every contribution. We are based in London and are open to offers from all over the country.

DIVORCE

Have you had a better relationship with your husband/wife since you divorced? A TV Researcher would like to hear from you. We are looking for people who have divorced and are interested in sharing their experiences. We are open to all responses and are grateful for every contribution. We are based in London and are open to offers from all over the country.

THE SALISBURY REVIEW

Brigitte, leading actress in the musical 'The Sound of Music' is looking for a new role. She is a talented and experienced actress who is looking for a challenge. She is open to all offers and is grateful for every opportunity. She is based in London and is open to offers from all over the country.

FOR SALE

LAST FIVE GEC For sale. This is a rare opportunity to purchase a large property in a prime location. The property is in excellent condition and is suitable for a variety of uses. It is available for sale at a very competitive price.

RENTALS

RENTALS We are offering a variety of rental properties. These properties are in excellent condition and are suitable for a variety of uses. They are available for rent at a very competitive price.

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

AMERICA AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND For low cost flights. We are offering a variety of flights to America, Australia, and New Zealand. These flights are at a very competitive price and are suitable for a variety of purposes.

HERMIS TRAVEL

35 Whitehall, SW1 We are offering a variety of travel services. These services are in excellent condition and are suitable for a variety of purposes. They are available for sale at a very competitive price.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

THE PIANO WORKSHOP We are offering a variety of musical instruments. These instruments are in excellent condition and are suitable for a variety of purposes. They are available for sale at a very competitive price.

HIRE NOW BUY LATER

MARKSON PIANOS We are offering a variety of pianos for hire. These pianos are in excellent condition and are suitable for a variety of purposes. They are available for hire at a very competitive price.

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LUXURY POWER YACHT We are offering a variety of yachts for sale. These yachts are in excellent condition and are suitable for a variety of purposes. They are available for sale at a very competitive price.

ANIMALS & BIRDS

RUSSIAN BLUE MOUNTAIN We are offering a variety of animals and birds for sale. These animals and birds are in excellent condition and are suitable for a variety of purposes. They are available for sale at a very competitive price.

FOR HIM

ROLEX OYSTER We are offering a variety of watches for sale. These watches are in excellent condition and are suitable for a variety of purposes. They are available for sale at a very competitive price.

SWIMMING POOLS

AMAZING SAVINGS on summer swimming pools. We are offering a variety of swimming pools for sale. These pools are in excellent condition and are suitable for a variety of purposes. They are available for sale at a very competitive price.

SHORT LETS

W2 Queens Garden We are offering a variety of short let properties. These properties are in excellent condition and are suitable for a variety of purposes. They are available for short let at a very competitive price.

FLATSHARE

RECENTLY PAID We are offering a variety of flatshare properties. These properties are in excellent condition and are suitable for a variety of purposes. They are available for flatshare at a very competitive price.

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Nairobi, To, Bang, Cairo, Dubai We are offering a variety of travel services. These services are in excellent condition and are suitable for a variety of purposes. They are available for sale at a very competitive price.

CORFU/TURKEY

8th Nov 86 to 12th Nov 86 We are offering a variety of travel services. These services are in excellent condition and are suitable for a variety of purposes. They are available for sale at a very competitive price.

BATTERY

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Bint Pasha to initiate Cole double

By Mandarin
(Michael Phillips)

Paul Cole, the new master of Whatcombe and Richard Quinn, his accomplished young stable jockey, look poised to pull off a double at Sandown Park today with Bint Pasha (2.35) and Axe Valley (4.10).

After finishing second in her first two races, Bint Pasha is napped to make the winner's enclosure at the third attempt in the Jardine Maiden Fillies Stakes.

Being by the American Triple Crown winner Affirmed, out of a mare by Graustark, Bint Pasha should be well suited to today's distance and her trainer is more than hopeful that she will lead from start to finish.

For a filly with her breeding she has already done well to be placed over five and six furlongs behind such individuals as Forest Flower and Twyla, who have both gone on to win again - Forest Flower at Royal Ascot and Twyla at Newmarket last Saturday.

My contention is that it will take an above-average newcomer to catch Bint Pasha this time.

Axe Valley is not a big filly to be saddled with 9st 10lb in the Incheape Handicap, but what she lacks in size she certainly makes up for with heart.

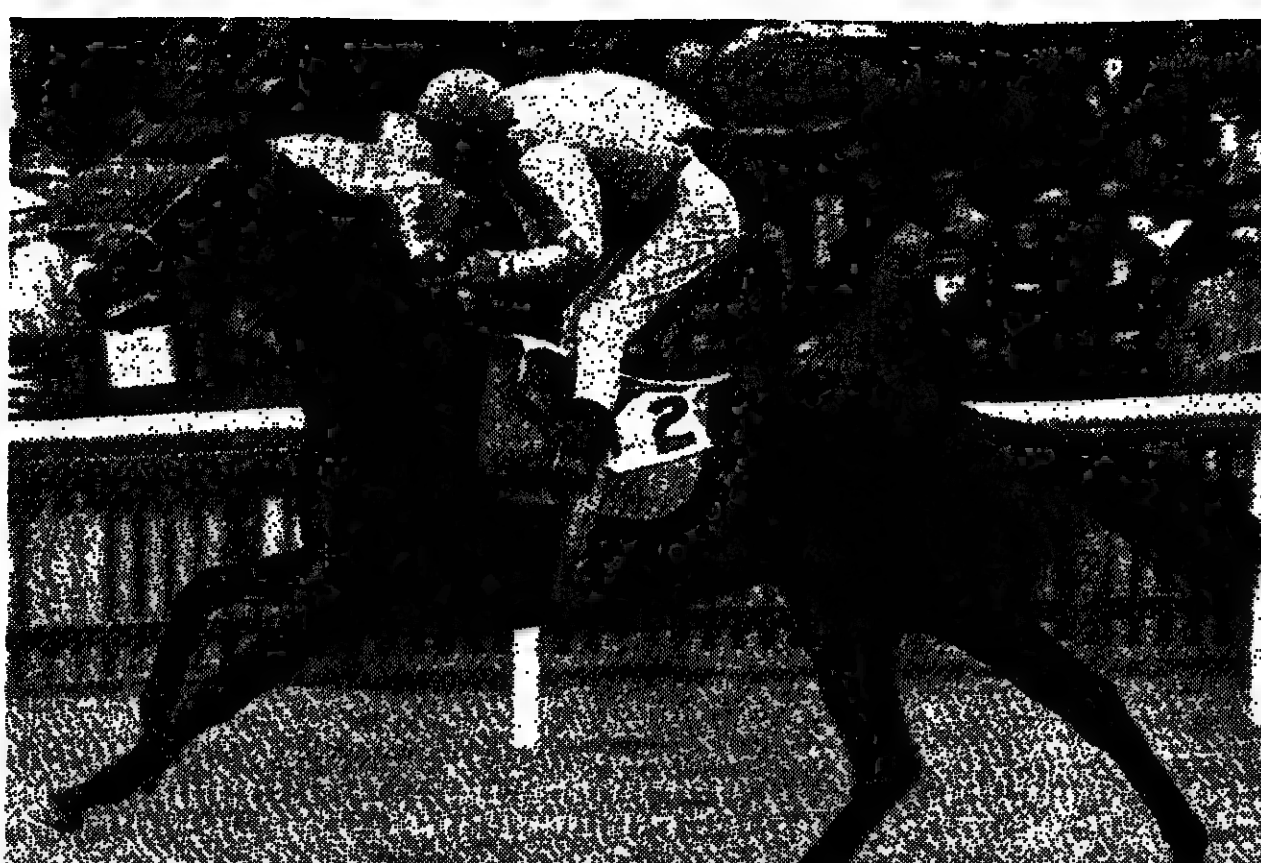
And she is pretty quick, too, as she demonstrated so ably here at Sandown just under three weeks ago when she won an almost identical race over today's course and distance.

On that occasion she had All Agreed, Kelly's Royale, Cree Bay and Lochillum in her wake and I believe that she is capable of beating them again this afternoon, albeit on slightly worse terms.

Twelve months ago Ian Balding won the first race on this particular programme with the fast filly Measuring. Now he must be hopeful that Sea Dara will follow suit.

When she won first time out, over today's course and distance, Sea Dara beat Sea Diable who, at Windsor on Monday, just managed to hold that speedy Miskalk Misk at bay.

With Walter Swinburn required in Hamburg to partner Lavender Mist for Michael Stoute, Tony Kimberley will



Armada, Gay Harwood's unbeaten colt, who is fancied for Haydock Park's Metropole Trophy.

be on the well-bred newcomer Baltic Shore, whose sire Danzig has done so well at stud. Apparently, Baltic Shore can step on a bit, but Sea Dara has the edge on experience.

Arguably, Stoute's best chance at home today lies with Dalgaiyr in the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club Trophy. Last time out he finished third to Moon Madness and Wesham in the King George V Handicap at Royal Ascot.

But with Wesham losing at Windsor on Monday that form now has a slight flaw and I just prefer Kalkour who, ironically, is one of Stoute's cast-offs.

At the last meeting Kalkour ran out a very comfortable winner of a similar race and I find it hard to believe that Al-Yabir can make up five lengths, even on 6lb better terms. In the meantime, Kalkour has run really well in Belgium to finish second to Phardante in the Grand Prix de Bruxelles.

Besides Dalgaiyr, who may well be better suited to today's distance than Ascot's mile and a half, Promised Isle, Rana Pratap and Try To Stop Me are others who will make life difficult for Kalkour.

By winning at Goodwood and Sandown, since he landed a gamble at Newmarket,

winning at Salisbury and Kempton recently. By the time that Michael Hills takes Aventino to post this afternoon Bold Pillager may well have won the Derek Cretch Handicap at Haydock where the one-time Derby hope Armada will be expected

Newmarket in April, gives my selection the beating of Top Guest.

With Jeremy Tree and Pat Eddery in all-conquering form at present, Gelfer will start at short odds to win the John Barnes Maiden Stakes, even though he is opposed by Summerhill Streak and Antinous. Gelfer's first run at Newbury behind Brave Dancer augured well.

Finally, Rapid Lad looks a good bet in the Groundways Handicap to improve his already excellent record at Beverley where he has won seven races. After a while in the wilderness, John Spearing's eight-year-old came good there again three weeks ago to the delight of his numerous local supporters.

Corals, who sponsor tomorrow's Eclipse Stakes at Sandown Park, are offering 5-4 against the course record being broken in the ten-furlong event. The present record is held by Kalaglow, who won the race four years ago.

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Cochrane injures arm after heavy fall at Brighton

By Michael Coleman

The only absentee of note from the national open championships which begin today at Milton Keynes is Dominic Mahony who is in Moscow representing Britain at this sport in the Goodwill Games.

Places on both the senior and junior squads at next month's world championships in Italy will be at stake, hence the expected big turnout.

Exams prevented Mahony taking part in the recent Birmingham International and his current form so far has been exhibited at contests abroad. However, logic points to his being selected for Italy alongside the obvious choice of Richard Phelps.

Mahony's fencing alone requires his inclusion in the squad. Nothing deflates morale more than minimum marks being scored by all the team on the second day of a contest, as happened last year at the Melbourne world title fight and, indeed, to a large extent at Birmingham.

Front-runners for the other two senior places will include Peter Hart, whose win in Bern last week atoned for his riding gaffe in Birmingham where he missed a fence, thereby losing 1,100 points, and Graham Brookhouse and Jim Nowak.

With the holder Peter Whiteside, now supposedly more coach than competitor, defending and embarrassingly as fit as ever, it must be a cliffhanger.

The sport is such that whatever you have gained on the swings (for Brookhouse, for instance, the swimming and shooting) you can just as easily squander on the roundabouts.

Logic, however, also requires that only the best international competitors go to the world championships. Scores at domestic contests are invariably inflated by the high marks achieved when fencing local talent which bears no resemblance to the cut and thrust of fighting on the pistes overseas.

It might well emerge, therefore, that even the winner of this weekend's title fight at Milton Keynes will not be guaranteed a place for Italy.

At the request of the Sports Council, drug control will operate during the competition which is once again being handsomely sponsored by the City of Milton Keynes.

By Michael Coleman

Ray Cochrane, enjoying his best season, including two classic winners, escaped serious injury when his mount, Morning Flower, stumbled and fell in the opening race, the Beau Brummel Maiden Claiming Stakes, at Brighton yesterday.

Sitting just behind the leaders at the two furlong marker, the odds-on favourite suddenly lost his footing and Cochrane took a crashing fall. He was brought back in an ambulance, then sent to the Royal Sussex Hospital with a whiplash injury to the neck and a suspected fracture of the forearm.

The senior Jockey Club medical officer, Dr Michael Allen, said: "I do not think it's too serious, but he will have to be X-rayed."

The notorious Brighton track has claimed many victims in the past, including the tragic death of Joe Blanks five years ago. Steve Dawson, Mick Miller and Gay Kelleway have all recently sustained injuries at the course.

Cochrane, the 29-year-old Irish-born jockey, was enjoying his best season with 36 winners, 155 fourths and nine classic victories on Midway Lady.

The race went to Lady Be, who scored by one and a half lengths from Mi-Oh-Mi.

Greville Starkey provided new trainer Alex Whiting with his first success when coming through smoothly on Red Zulu to take the Regatta Selling Stakes. The gelded son of Red Johnny, always travelling well in behind the leaders, was produced at just the right time to gain a half-length victory over The 31c.

The 34-year-old Loughborough trainer has only recently taken over from Lenny Lightbrown, who has ten horses in charge, was assistant to Lightbrown for four years. Lightbrown is giving up the English scene for a job in the United States.

Davies cleared Hywel Davies, the National Hunt jockey, has not broken the rules of racing, regarding his riding of Premier Charlie at Wolverhampton in March. After a Jockey Club inquiry at Portman Square yesterday, the disciplinary committee cleared Davies of breaking the rules of racing.

The hearing followed an investigation into a complaint made by Premier Charlie's trainer Michael Hinchcliffe, after the gelding, who started 9-2 joint favourite, could finish only eighth of the 14 runners.

St Hilarion in top form for Saint-Cloud trip

From Our French Correspondent, Paris

The Guy Harwood-trained St Hilarion, a good second behind Dithusa at Royal Ascot, carries British hopes in the Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud on Sunday.

Barry Hills has decided not to run last year's second, Seismic Wave, after all and St Hilarion will face a succession of able opponents including Andre Fabre's Saint Estephe, who was well clear of St Hilarion when just scrapping home in the Coronation Cup, and stable companion Gatte Pacade.

Comedian of the week Sunday's Grand Prix de Paris scorer, Swink, has since made a supplementary entry for him so, presumably, he will be in the line-up.

Steve Canthas has an interesting book to be written on the subject of being the best of her sex in the country, having won the Preis der Diana (German Oaks) on her most recent appearance.

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St Hilarion, who won the last eight

Navratilova's lesson for Sabatini

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Martina Navratilova, champion for the past four years and six times Wimbledon women's singles finalist, advanced to the Wimbledon women's singles final once again by beating Gabriela Sabatini, of Argentina, aged 16, by 6-2, 6-2, in only 53 minutes yesterday. At least Miss Sabatini had the satisfaction of progressing further than any other player from her country. She was also the youngest player in this century to contest a singles semi-final.

Miss Navratilova, aged 29, had great advantages in terms of experience, strength and agility. She moved the ball about so quickly that Miss Sabatini had to win a rally quickly, while the ball was within reach — if she was to win it at all. The longer the rally lasted, the more likely it became that Miss Sabatini would not reach the ball in time — partly because anticipation is not yet sharp enough to get her off the mark quickly

and partly because she is not at all that nimble anyway.

Miss Sabatini played many superb shots but was less adept at playing them in constructive and sound sequences. Her first service improved a great deal and in her first three service games she served four aces. She also demonstrated her excellent touch and precocious court sense. Her most impressive shot was a forehand down the line that is, when she took the ball early and thus achieved a sudden acceleration of pace.

But many of her strokes were too florid, which is to say that a big swing left her at a momentary disadvantage when it came to regaining position. She did hit some delightful winners, but Miss Navratilova was always in charge of the match and nearly always in charge of the rallies.

Miss Sabatini could score only 11 points from Miss Navratilova's eight service

games. Midway through the second set the Argentinian began to look rather frustrated and resigned. But from 1-4 down she suddenly produced a series of exciting shots, as if deciding that she might as well hang a few pictures on the wall for us before she left town.

This was more of a tutorial than a match. Miss Navratilova who holds the Australian title as well as Wimbledon's, has won her six matches here in straight sets at a total cost of only 25 games. She has had an easy draw and has certainly made the most of it.

In the final Miss Navratilova will play Hana Mandlikova, who beat Chris Lloyd, three times champion, by 7-6, 7-5 after Mrs Lloyd had led 5-2 in the second set. Miss Mandlikova beat Mrs Lloyd and Miss Navratilova in turn to win the United States championship



Problems at home for dashing Leconte



Ups and downs: Navratilova after victory and Lloyd on her way to defeat (Photograph Ian Stewart)

The Frenchman, Henri Leconte, who plays Boris Becker in the men's singles semi-finals today, is not too popular in his own country, because he hits the ball too hard. Leconte, who beat Pat Cash in the quarter-finals on Wednesday, cannot help himself. When he sees a ball, he belts it.

His friend and coach, Patrice Dominguez, said: "Henri is more popular at Wimbledon than in Paris. In France the people like to see long rallies. They don't like to see Henri going for big winners. They are just not used to it. He prefers the Wimbledon crowds because they like his style and give him so much support. And he thinks grass is a simple surface to play on."

But against Becker he will be out to even a score. "It will be like the World Cup," said Leconte, a football enthusiast. "Germany beat France and I'm looking for revenge."

Should Becker and Slobodan Zivjovic, of Yugoslavia (who plays Ivan Lendl in today's other semi-final), meet in the Wimbledon final on Sunday, it will be just like home. Both live in Monte Carlo and practice

together almost daily when they are not engaged in tournaments. Zivjovic, who describes his Wimbledon semi-final appearance as "the biggest thing in my career," said: "Boris and I have been playing together since last year, sometimes for three or four hours a day. But I think it's not so good if you play with the same person every day. You can close your eyes and know what they are going to play."

Well, Bobo, as Zivjovic is known on the circuit, might live to rejoice in his knowledge of the champion's game.

League ideas

Wigan are attempting to solve the promotion and relegation problem by proposing to the Rugby League a system of three down and two up, during the next two seasons.

At the recent annual meeting of clubs, various ideas were discussed to reduce the first division from 16 to 14 clubs. Yesterday Maurice Lindsay, the Wigan vice chairman, said other ideas, like five down and three up, or three down and one up, were either unfair or unworkable.

Three of last four in debt to Tiriac

By Richard Evans

Not since Rod Laver, John Newcombe and Tony Roche reached the last four in 1969 has one man exerted the kind of influence on three Wimbledon semi-finalists as Ion Tiriac has this year.

The three great Australians were all influenced to some degree by the late Harry Hopman, probably the greatest motivator and disciplinarian the game has known. Tiriac is cut from a very different cloth.

The rugged Romanian might stir up images of dark dealings in the back streets of Bucharest but Boris Becker, Slobodan Zivjovic and Henri Leconte, as well as anyone else who has worked closely with him will tell you, is a different story.

Tiriac's carefully cultivated image may scare people into adding another notch to the contracts when he negotiates on behalf of his players. But sooner or later they discover his growl is worse than his bite.

Not that he lacks an appetite for an eye for the big deal. Becker's three-year contract with Puma, which makes his rackets and his shoes, is reputed to be in excess of \$25 million (£16 million). But the management side of the tennis business constitutes only part of Tiriac's influence because it was as a coach, originally with Guillermo Vilas, that he began to make his name, after an average career as a player in the early days of the grand prix tour.

Leconte, as a rebellious youth of 17, was Tiriac's first pick after Vilas became established but they agreed to go their own ways at approximately the same time as Becker appeared on the scene. Zivjovic, a larger than life character searching for an anchor as he floated around the periphery of the circuit, joined the stable last year and promptly rewarded Tiriac's patience by beating John McEnroe on his way to the semi-finals of the Australian Open last December.

A final between Ivan Lendl and Leconte would not be Tiriac's choice but if that happens he could at least derive some satisfaction from the work he put in during the Frenchman's formative years.

However, if Leconte's wide variety of skills should prove more expensive than Becker's today, Tiriac will rightfully stand back and allow Patrice Dominguez to take his full share of the credit. The former French No. 1 has returned to Leconte's side after a prospective deal for Manuel Santana to act as his coach fell through. The improvement in Leconte's tactical game has been immediately evident.

Nevertheless, Becker beat Leconte in four sets in their only previous meeting here at the quarter-final stage last year and although I expect this encounter to be closer, I am sticking with my prediction that the youngest Wimbledon champion in history will retain his crown.

Lendl, who is being turned into a grass court player by Roche, one of those 1969 semi-finalists, must be favourite to beat Zivjovic, the more so now that he has been thoroughly tested by the admirable Tim Mayotte. But Lendl is still vulnerable to anyone who feels completely at ease on grass and the massive Yugoslav has been convinced, ever since his success in Melbourne, that natural turf is tailor-made for his pounding style.

Weather cannot take the blame

By David Miller

Another year gone by, another tale of Britain being a bystander at its own gala. It is symptomatic of our secondary role in international tennis that two of those vested with the prime responsibility for restoring British prestige, Paul Hutchings and Mark Cook, the Davis Cup captain and coach respectively, should both be sitting in commentary boxes rather than being out and about round the course trying to analyse why we lag behind other nations. Perhaps dear Dan Maskell has set the

DAVID MILLER

standard: what we are really good at is commenting. If the Lawn Tennis Association were a business, and not a self-selecting body of seemingly undemanding standards, exposed to normal life's harsher realities, heads would surely roll.

For the past four years the organization has been receiving more than £4million a year, and this year its share from the All England Club's profits from a

Time to collect their cards

fortnight's glorious sunshine will again be over £5million. Yet on grass, supposedly the British surface, we have had no man in the last 32, no woman in the last 16.

Returning from the hypercritical environment of the World Cup in Mexico, it is unavoidable to come to the conclusion that if Hutchings and Charles Applewhite, the director of coaching were in that sport, they would have collected their cards.

This is not to say that their long-term objectives, their coaching principles, are not admirably designed. The fact is, however, that in professional sport it is results that count, and judging from present trends, some 30 years after Fred Perry's last victory, Britain may well have to wait another 30 years to produce a champion.

Something is wrong; we cannot forever go on saying that it is the British weather. The LTA official handbook lists some 300 professional coaches and 700 associate coaches. The game is not short of advice, but it is to be questioned whether it is the right advice.

When a system is not working, in business or sport, it is necessary to look first at the top. Those at the top of the LTA, in either administration or coaching, should be feeling uncomfortable.

A few years ago Jo Durie had the makings of a successful player. Some of the credit for that was undoubtedly due to her coach, Alan Jones. Then her progress stalled. It has to be answered whether that was on account of her incapacity, technical or temperamental, to continue to advance, or whether the input which Jones was capable of contributing had reached its limit on the basis either of his knowledge and experience, or the relationship between player and coach which is fundamental to all such one-on-one combinations.

Too parochial, too jealous

Because the establishment of British coaching and administration is hierarchical, too many individuals tend to be protecting their positions, rather than thrusting themselves in an attitude of total commitment which might make them vulnerable. If the system at the top is bureaucratic, and the coaching of individual players is by committee appointment rather than instinctive relationships discovered by trial and error on the circuit, coaches lower down the scale tend to hang onto their young protégés past the point when they can usefully assist them. The best instructors in ball and racquet sports are those who know when the moment has arrived at which they should pass their pupils into more able hands.

The environment of British coaching is too parochial, protective and jealous. In sport, in art, sound advice should be a free-flowing currency with no restriction on exchange. If the preoccupation of leadership is the security of its own position, then investment of money and people, is always likely to be unproductive.

It is indicative of the British system that Roger Taylor, the most competitive of post-war players, has been coaching largely overseas, that Tony Pickard to the Swedes, and that resident foreigners such as Frew McMillan and Fletcher, are not embraced by the system and even resist it.

WIMBLEDON RESULTS

(Selected players in capitals)

The following results were received too late for inclusion in yesterday's early editions.

Men's singles

Holder: B Becker (WG)

Quarter-finals

B Becker (WG) vs M McEnroe (G), 6-4, 6-2, 7-6.

I Lendl (G) vs T Mayotte (US), 6-4, 6-2, 6-7.

Men's doubles

Holders: H Gurnhardt (SWITZ) and B Tarczyk (HUNG)

Quarter-finals

J Nyström (SWE) and M Wilander (SWE) vs K Flach (US) and R Seguso (US), 6-4, 6-2, 7-6.

Mixed doubles

Holders: P McNamee (AUS) and Miss M Navratilova (US)

Second round

C J Van Rensburg (SA) and Miss R D Fairbank (SA) vs T C Fancourt (AUS) and Miss C S Fancourt (AUS), 7-6, 6-4.

E Sanchez (SP) and Miss S V Sanchez (SP) vs J J Fawcett (GB) and Miss S V Fawcett (GB), 6-3.

S Casal (SP) and Miss R Reggi (IT) vs J J Gail (AUS) and Miss J E Gooding (US), 6-4, 6-2.

K Flach (US) and Miss K Jordan (US) vs L Warder (AUS) and Miss A L Minter (AUS), 7-6, 6-4.

J B Fitzgerald (AUS) and Mrs P D Fitzgerald (AUS) vs Mrs P D Fitzgerald (AUS) and Mrs P D Fitzgerald (AUS), 6-4, 6-2.

Women's singles

Semi-finals

M Navratilova (US) vs G Sabatini (ARG), 6-2, 6-2.

H Mandlikova (CZ) vs C Lloyd (US), 7-6, 7-5.

Key to countries

Arg: Argentina; Aus: Australia; Bel: Belgium; Br: Brazil; Bul: Bulgaria; Can: Canada; Col: Colombia; Cze: Czechoslovakia; Den: Denmark; Ecu: Ecuador; Fin: Finland; Fra: France; Ger: Great Britain; Gre: Greece; HK: Hong Kong; Hung: Hungary; Ind: India; Isr: Israel; Ita: Italy; Jap: Japan; Mex: Mexico; Net: Netherlands; NZ: New Zealand; Par: Paraguay; Pol: Poland; Por: Portugal; R: Rhodesia; Rom: Romania; SA: South Africa; S: Korea; S: Spain; Swe: Sweden; Swi: Switzerland; Ukr: Ukraine; US: United States; USSR: Soviet Union; Ven: Venezuela; WG: West Germany; Yug: Yugoslavia; Zim: Zimbabwe.

Connor and Lynch campaign to ostracize Budd at Games

From Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent, Dresden

Keith Connor and Andrea Lynch, two of the most respected former British athletes of West Indian origin, are to canvass a move by black members of the England Commonwealth Games team to ostracize Zola Budd for her continuing South African connection. This follows a demand from Tessa Sanderson, the Olympic javelin champion, that Miss Budd should condemn apart-herd.

Connor, the Commonwealth and

the Olympic bronze medal, feels that black team members are afraid to voice their feelings about Miss Budd for fear of reprisals from officials, whom they perceive to be backing the South African-born athlete's every move.

Connor, who, like Miss Lynch, is here on the European Grand Prix circuit as a coach, said yesterday: "When we leave the shores of Britain, we are our country's ambassadors and for black people in Britain. But as long as Zola Budd refuses to take any stance, she is still perceived as South African."

"One of the reasons I'm saying this now is that there's going to be a large-scale massacre of black people in South Africa. I'm not saying Zola can save that situation, but she can contribute to it beneficially. She is a fantastic athlete, but she owes the British team an explanation as to why she isn't taking a stance."

"What is a further disgrace is that the only reason that she will stop to train in Britain rather than go back

home as she has been doing for the last two years, is the inflammatory situation in South Africa."

Miss Lynch, who held the United Kingdom 100 metres record for 10 years, and was awarded the MBE in 1978, now lives in Los Angeles, and teaches at an inter-racial foundation. She is on her way to Britain for the first time in six years to attend the Commonwealth Games, and is backing Connor's move to talk to the black athletes in the British team and ask them to voice their true feelings about Miss Budd.

Miss Lynch said yesterday: "If I were on the England team for the Commonwealth Games with Zola Budd in it, in the current situation, I would boycott Edinburgh. She is still seen as South African, and Britain is getting a lot of negative publicity for that. I'm not going to be comfortable going to a meeting at Crystal Palace and watching Zola Budd."

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GOLF

Faldo keeps company with the demigod

From Mitchell Platts, Versailles

Nick Faldo, conspicuous by his absence from the leader boards during the last two years, made his presence felt once more with a first-round of 66 in the Peugeot Open on the La Baulie course here yesterday.

Inevitably, Severiano Ballesteros scored a 65, maintaining one of the most astounding sequences of form that even this demigod of the game has produced, but there was no disguising the delight of Faldo as he completed his score alongside the Spaniard.

"I think that playing with Severiano, especially when he is in this kind of form, can inspire you," Faldo said. "It was important to have a good round as it would seem the scoring is likely to be very low this week."

What was most impressive about Faldo's performance was the aggressive manner in which he played his last nine holes after suffering an acute embarrassment. He began at the 10th, looked every inch as sharp as Ballesteros and then unaccountably took four putts at the 18th.

Faldo has on occasions allowed such calamities to destroy his rhythm. He did not this time. Faldo coaxed home the putt of 10 feet for a birdie at the first — his 10th hole — then went on to birdie each of the last three holes.

Ballesteros was impressed. "I like the way that Nick is swinging now," he said. "I changed my swing in the winter of 1979-80 and it can take time to regain complete confidence. I was fortunate because I won the US Masters in the spring."

The Spaniard altered his swing because he was worried

CROQUET

Australians routed by devastating Aspinall

On the final day of the sixth Test Match in the Westwood international croquet series, Great Britain won against Australia when Nigel Aspinall defeated the Australian captain, Neil Spooner, in two games with fine displays of controlled break-making.

Aspinall was particularly devastating in the first game, not allowing his opponent to score a point and finishing with a triple peal.

The series continues with the seventh Test Match between New Zealand and Australia at Southwick on July 5 to 7.

Results of singles matches, GB were first: Iwan beat Bikenope +1 +25. Openshaw beat Chambers +4 +24 +23. McCullough lost to Cleland -2 -1 -5. Aspinall beat Spooner +22 (17) +22.

Hagler an enigma

Brockton, Massachusetts. (Reuters) — Marvelous Marvin Hagler, middleweight champion of the world, who was expected to announce a big-money fight against Sugar Ray Leonard, yesterday said that he was instead considering retirement. With rumours raging about an \$8 million (£3.3 million) pay day for Hagler to meet Leonard, the former welterweight and junior middleweight world title holder, Hagler stunned a news conference by saying he was thinking of quitting.

"I have been a great champion," Hagler, aged 32, said. "I would like to leave the game and walk out a proud champion."

Hagler, who has won 62 of his 66 contests, said he had made plenty of money and would like to move on "while I still have my faculties together." His wife, Bertha, said: "I have a lot of influence on him and I think he will retire." Pat Petronelli, his manager, professed bewilderment. "He said something strange. He said money's not everything."

More athletics, page 30.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Brazil top

The International Football Federation (FIFA) yesterday proclaimed Brazil winners of the World Cup fair play competition.

Joao Havelange, president of FIFA, presented Octavio Pinto Guimarães, president of the Brazilian Football Association (CBF), with a certificate and a trophy after the Brazilians were chosen "the champions of sportsmanship." In their five matches, only three Brazilian players were shown yellow cards, none of them because of violent play, Havelange said.

Transfer is off

The proposed basketball transfer exchange deal involving Dip Donaldson of Birmingham Bullets and Colin McNish of Team Polycell Kingston has been called off because Donaldson would not be allowed to play for Kingston as an English player, because he is still classified as a foreigner. Eric Woodward, the former chief executive of Wolverhampton Wanderers FC commercial manager of Aston Villa, has been appointed a director of Bullets. He replaces Terry Donovan, who has resigned.

More athletics, page 30.

Too parochial, too jealous

Because the establishment of British coaching and administration is hierarchical, too many individuals tend to be protecting their positions, rather than thrusting themselves in an attitude of total commitment which might make them vulnerable. If the system at the top is bureaucratic, and the coaching of individual players is by committee appointment rather than instinctive relationships discovered by trial and error on the circuit, coaches lower down the scale tend to hang onto their young protégés past the point when they can usefully assist them. The best instructors in ball and racquet sports are those who know when the moment has arrived at which they should pass their pupils into more able hands.

The environment of British coaching is too parochial, protective and jealous. In sport, in art, sound advice should be a free-flowing currency with no restriction on exchange. If the preoccupation of leadership is the security of its own position, then investment of money and people, is always likely to be unproductive.

It is indicative of the British system that Roger Taylor, the most competitive of post-war players, has been coaching largely overseas, that Tony Pickard to the Swedes, and that resident foreigners such as Frew McMillan and Fletcher, are not embraced by the system and even resist it.

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More athletics, page 30.

BP local water

Monday

Watchers in the sky

Portfolio

£24,000 to be won

Where is £24,000 — the usual total — won today in The Portfolio Gold competition? £18,000 in the weekly competition was not won last week and £8,000 in the competition there was no winner yesterday. Portfolio lists pages 20 and 21 to play, page 25.

Pison strike

On This Day

Too noisy

Oxford passes

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